



THE CONNECTING LINK



Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church
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Hickory Hills, IL 60457

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SEPTEMBER 2011

Minor Ministerial Musings

In the newsletter each month, a list is published, of all the people in our congregation who have birthdays in that particular month. It is a way that we, as a church family, can celebrate together, and participate in each other's joy, perhaps keeping in mind what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 12:26: "...[I]f one member is honored, all rejoice together." Birthdays are indeed days to honor, and days to rejoice. No matter how many birthdays you have had, one's birthday is a cause to celebrate. It is a marker, an indication, of how far you have come. It is a good time to reflect on what you have done, how you have spent the years that you have had. And it is a good time to look toward the future – to plan, to dream, to envision, how you will spend the years to come.

There is one very important birthday coming up that I want to make sure you do not miss – ours! Did you realize that Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church has a birthday this month? If you check out the history page on the Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church website, you will find that in September of 1951, "we began as a Sunday school in the North Palos School building across the street from the current location after a survey by the Church Extension Board of the Chicago Presbytery". Before we were even a chartered congregation, we began as a Sunday School.

As we get ready for Rally Day, and the beginning of so many learning opportunities starting in September, it is especially appropriate that we remember who we are as a learning congregation. As we have been reminded so often, the first and greatest commandment is to love the Lord our God with all that we are – with our heart, strength, soul, and *mind*. This means continuing to take every opportunity we can to learn more about God, to learn more about Jesus, to learn more about the Bible. This is how we learn to articulate our faith to others, so that we can teach others about the joy and the hope that we have, inviting them into that same joy and that same hope.

The commandment to love the Lord our God with all our minds also means taking every opportunity to learn more about ourselves, and more about each other. After all, the commandment to love the Lord our God with everything that we are is followed by – and inseparable from – the commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves.

One of my Christian Education professors once expressed the belief that "everything the church does teaches." I believe that this is true in a very important way. There are lessons to be learned from everything that we do – lessons about who we are as followers of Christ, and why we believe and do the things we believe and do. We learn about worship when we gather on Sunday mornings or afternoons, every time we gather to give praise and thanksgiving to God. We learn about prayer every time we bow our heads or hold each others' hands, every time we speak the words, "Our Father". We learn more about how to treat one another, more about the teachings of Jesus, and more about the commandments of God, every time we open the Bible, or enter a class, either on Sunday mornings or other times during the week. We learn how to do justice and love mercy every time we give our time and talents to the food pantry, or the sewing ministries, or work with P.A.D.S. or go on a mission trip. From everything we do as the body of Christ, we learn more about what it means to be the body of Christ.

So happy birthday, to all of us! Celebrate and rejoice. And never stop learning.

In Joyful Anticipation, Pastor Lara



*In
Loving
Memory
Of
G.R. Snow*

John 14:1-6

The staff, Session, members, and friends of Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church are deeply grieved by the loss of G.R. Snow, who passed away on July 23, 2011, after a several-week battle following a stroke suffered on July 4.

G.R. was Director of Music, Senior Choir Director, and Bell Choir Director from 2000 till his passing in July of 2011. G.R. brought amazing God-given gifts and talents to the ministries of Hickory Hills, and to the lives of those who worshipped here. He followed God's call on his life, as expressed by the Psalmist, to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" with everything he did. His ministry, and his life, touched our lives, and we will miss him very much.

Our prayers continue to be with his mother, Eloise Snow, and his closest friend and roommate, Alan A. Hayes, as well as with all of his family and friends who loved him and will miss him.

A funeral for G.R. was held at the Zion United Methodist Church in Pershing, Iowa, on July 28, 2011. A memorial service was held at Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church in Hickory Hills, IL, on August 20, 2011.

Messages In Loving Memory of G.R. can be sent to HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org. Memorial gifts in G.R.'s Honor may be made to the Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church sound system fund, a project very near and dear to G.R.'s heart.



HHPC PRAYER REQUESTS

- Jenny Curtis for health concerns
- Praise for Donna's friend Gail Hensen, for successful heart replacement
- Jean Somerstorfer for health concerns
- Frank Esparza for health concerns
- Nicky DeFranzo for healing
- Debbie, Sharon's friend, for health concerns
- Eloise Snow, and Family on the Passing of G.R. Snow
- Cindy Treccani for healing
- Jeni Vogl's sister, Patti, for healing, & mom, Wanda, for strength
- Al Lewington & family as he is in Hospice
- Marie Hoffman for health concerns
- Tanya Gleespen and other Air Force Reservists, deployed to Afghanistan
- Hollie Fox for strength
- Gert Vickers' Granddaughter, Elizabeth, who is with child
- Harry Zimmerman for health concerns & strength
- Wally Golema for continuous healing
- Lucy's Sister, Delores, as she is in hospice care, & her Brother in Law, Bob
- Ivy Taebel, & her Son, Larry, for health concerns & strength
- Shannon Bastien for health concerns
- Kyle Krueger, in Marine Corps
- Dorothy Allen for strength
- Our Service Men and Women and their families
- Our Policemen, Firemen, & their families
- DelPrete Family for strength, faith, & hope during Jen's battle

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

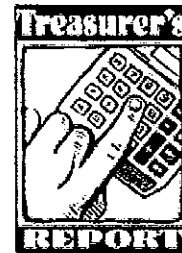
PRAYER is the ENGINE of the CHURCH



JULY 2011 TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS
\$15,894.00

GENERAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS
\$17,509.00



TWILIGHT PRAYER

A slow leak is by no means a blow out. None the less, the air escapes and a flat tire is the result. Are you a slow leaker or a blow out? Either way, you may feel depleted. Get some fresh air pumped into those lungs. Come join us for a refreshing evening of prayer.

There's plenty of air to go around.

Regards,
C. Lou Pearson

PADS UPDATE

As we harvest the crops of our gardens, let us not forget those who harvest the reality of hard times.

October 1st is our first obligation to our PADS ministry. Are we ready to share our harvest with those less fortunate? I believe you are.

Gifts of self and financial gifts are always welcome. May we put something of value in that extended hand and open heart.

Regards,
C. Lou Pearson

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! We will begin our class at 1:00 pm on Monday, Sept. 12, in the Junior High Classroom.

We have decided to study Proverbs- the oldest written product of the wisdom movement in Israel. The purpose of the wisdom movement was initially a very practical one: to educate the nobility for cultural and political leadership.

There are three distinctive features about Proverbs. Do come and join us as we seek WISDOM.

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.”
PROVERBS 1:7 (RSV)

Calling All Musicians!

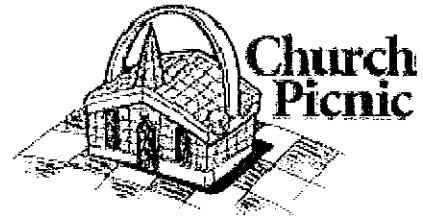


If you play an instrument or like to sing, and would like to make a joyful noise in worship, please let us know! Contact Pastor Lara, or Hanna in the church office, 598-3100

Change of Plans

Kirk MacGregor's Adult Midweek classes will begin at 7:30 pm & 8:30 pm, instead of 7:00 & 8:00. Classes Begin on Tue. Sept. 13.

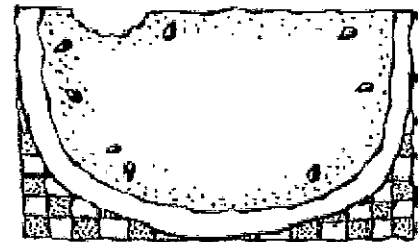
Rally Day Picnic



Join us for fellowship outside on the lawn at the rally day picnic.

food! games! music!

Let's start this Sunday School year off with some fun!



Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011

11:30 a.m.

A wonderful event for all ages

FALL FAMILY NIGHT

Friday, September 16
7:00 p.m.

With
Bubbleologist, Geoff Atkins
presenting
“ All Things are Possible ”

We invite you to join us at this special event as we welcome well known bubbleologist Geoff Akins. Geoff who is a popular presenter, motivational speaker and author uses the universal language of bubbles to teach all ages that “Nothing is impossible”. Come join us and see caterpillars, ice cream cones, snowmen and more created out of bubbles. Geoff who has been seen on NBC News, travels through out the United States presenting motivational shows with magic and “air”igami or bubble sculpture. His programs and travels have also taken him to orphanages in Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand, as well as performing in China, Singapore and Israel.

It will be an amazing evening of surprises guaranteed to keep kids and adults on the edge of their seats. We are blessed to have him a part of this family night.

Refreshments will following the program.

This evening is open to everyone. We encourage you to tell others about this evening.

For more information call the church office and ask for Dianne (598-3100)

HICKORY HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SOUND SYSTEM FUNDRAISER

Featuring:

Heather J
★ *Love Is Beautiful* ★

WHEN?
SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER
18TH
AT: 5 PM



ADMISSION:
FREE!
*FREE WILL OFFERING WILL
BE COLLECTED FOR
NEW SOUND SYSTEM*



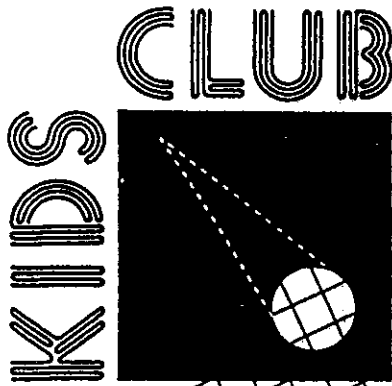
COME JOIN US CELEBRATING CHICAGO'S NEWEST CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN
ARTIST AS WE RAISE FUNDS FOR A NEW SOUND SYSTEM!!!

REV FUNDRAISER AT HHP C

FEATURING SINGLES: BEAUTIFUL~CALMED THE ACHE IN ME~EYES OF MY CREATOR

CDS ON SALE: \$10 (CASH ONLY)

FOR DIRECTIONS AND MORE INFORMATION GO TO: [HTTP://WWW.HICKORYHILLSPRES.ORG](http://www.hickoryhillspres.org)



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

Dianne Flynn, *Director*

Check Out Our Program

KIDS CLUB

STARTING

MONDAY, September 12th

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Come see what KIDS CLUB is all about!

Monday, September 12th KIDS CLUB begins. We are back with more activities for all kids age 5 through grade 6. Weekly we come together for a time of

- * Games in our Gym
- * Craft Projects
- * Music
- * Snacks
- * Christian Life studies

In addition, monthly we provide time to cook, participate in our knitting group, enjoy stories with our storyteller, and celebrate with the Snicker Balance.

This program, which has a religious base, has been structured in a nondenominational way so that we may be open to as many children in the community as possible.

We are accepting registrations now. There is no cost, but completion of the registration form is necessary. The forms are available in the fellowship room of the church or can be obtained by calling the church office (598-3100). We encourage you to Invite others to be a part of this outstanding outreach of our church.

For questions, please contact Dianne at the church.

KIDS ARE NUMBER 1 AT THE KIDS CLUB



Christian Education



All Church activities are beginning after **Rally Day, September 11**. Sunday school classes will be led by Megan Zimmerman and Gordon Home begin on Sunday, September 11. There will be a picnic in the church parking lot with ample room for eating on the tables supplied by Kyle Ambrosat and his work crew. There will be food and games to be enjoyed by all. We cordially invite you to spend the morning service with us and then attend the picnic. It will be a special celebration since we will also be celebrating the 60th anniversary of Sunday School at this site.

Two new programs have been added to the fall starting schedule on Tuesday evenings. Dr. Kirk MacGregor will teach "Walk Through the Bible" beginning at 7:30 PM. He will teach "Apologetics and World Religions" beginning at 8:30 PM. If you have not signed up for either of these exciting new additions to our church please be sure Dr. MacGregor knows you intend to attend his class.

Great news to report on the "**Kids Helping Kids**" mission projects. Two cases filled with school supplies were donated to the Appletree program where the Worth Youth Commission will distribute to needy families within the community. Four families within the Hickory Hills community were also given school supplies. Dianne delivered 223 lbs. of pop tops to the Ronald McDonald house near Hope Children's Hospital. We hope everyone will continue to support these projects during the year. As you can see the small donations you bring are helping many people in need.

The **Jr. High Youth Group** will be led by Katie Treccani and Bryan Ambrosat. They meet on Thursday at the Church, The **Senior High Youth Group** will be led by Rick and

Jeni Vogel and Mitch Huenecke. They will meet on Sunday at the Church after REV.

We wish to thank these dedicated leaders and hope everyone will come to the first meetings to plan an exciting and instructive year.

The Kids Club will have its first meeting on September 12. It meets on Mondays 3:30 to 5:00 PM at the Church. Children will enjoy games in the gym, crafts, table games, cooking, stories from the Bible, and singing. Anyone who has attended in the past will tell you that this is a great way to make new friends, learn about making strong relationships, and have a fun time after school. Children ages 5 years to grade 6 are welcome to register with Dianne Flynn. Come join us and bring your friends.

Stories and More is a program designed for children ages 4 to 6 years old. It is held on Tuesdays from 1-2 PM. The first meeting will be on September 20th. Children enjoy six week programs which may focus on kindergarten skills i.e., counting, identifying alphabet letters, numbers and colors, reading sight words, writing, sequencing letters and numbers, and improving listening skills. Children will learn to move to the music, play games to build visual and auditory attention, and hear a story which will also require them to attend to the discussion. The hour is spent with caring adults who have been privileged to work with children for the three years this program has been running. If you have a child ready for Kindergarten or know of one who will benefit from this program please contact Patt Pilgrim, program director, or Dianne Flynn, director of Children's Ministries.

Ladies, find your yarn and needles! Our **Prayer Shawl Mission** work has been moved to a

warmer location. We will have our first meeting on September 18 in the former fourth grade classroom just west of the piano in the fellowship hall. Get ready to make some new 7X9 rectangles for the lap blankets or a new creation for a Prayer Shawl. We made enough rectangles last year to have 10 lap blankets 35X36 inches. BUT that's a long way from the goal of 70 lap blankets done for our visit to the Hickory Pavilion Care Center. So find your yarn and needles. Get an interesting pattern ready to begin the new year, Make a resolution to learn a new stitch or skill this year and *try really hard* to accomplish it. We will meet for an hour or more on Sundays around 11:45 PM. Anyone who is interested in learning to crochet or knit is also welcome to join us. There are knitters and crocheters willing to help you learn. Or just stop by for some conversation. The door may be closed, but you are always welcome.

The Stampers have met several times this summer and are looking to officially begin the year on September 21 at 10:30 AM. We meet to create cards used by the Prayer and Care group as well as the Deacons. We have stamps, ink, embellishments and paper to help you express your creativity. Anyone who feels they would like to assist in making cards for the Church groups or those of you who would like to make cards for themselves are welcome to join us. We always have time for social discussions. We share embellishment ideas and even have Kim Ambrosat come to help us learn new techniques when she is available.

The Women's Bible Study group led by Arlene Pearson will begin again on September 12. Ladies who have attended before will tell you that you will encounter food for thought, lively discussions, and a great luncheon. Come join the Women as they tackle the Bible one book at a time. Monday afternoons at the Church.

Now for my favorite part of the newsletter. Please **mark your calendars** for the entire new year 2011-2012. (*There are more activities to be planned so maybe do it in pencil.*) So far the following activities have a date to attend,

Rally Day- September 11

Kids Club begins September 12

Stories and More begins September 20

Fall Family Night- September 16

Advent Night- December 2

Hanging of the Greens- December 4

Christmas Tea- December 15

Souper Bowl Sunday- February 5

Lenten Program- February 22-March 28

Spring Family Night- tentatively scheduled for May 4

Cookie Monster Bake Sale- May 13

Recognition Sunday- May 20

Last day of Kids Club- May 21

Vacation Bible School- June 11-15

We are happy to report that 9 children from our Church attended **Camp Saugatuk** this summer. After talking to them, it sounds like they all had a memorable time. Thank you for helping to send these children to camp. It maybe the one thing they'll remember from their summer, 2011.

The next **Christian Education Meeting** will be held on September 6 at 7:00 PM. Pastor Lara will attend and share some insights with us.

RALLY DAY 2011

Sunday, September 11

Join us as we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Sunday School
at Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church

*Train a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old he will not turn from it
Proverbs 22:6*

Parents:

Our Church School year begins Sunday, September 11th. Join us as together for this new beginning.

On This Day:

- ✧ Registration of children in their age appropriate classes for our new year.
- ✧ Classes for all ages 3 years - 12th grade are held during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.
- ✧ Nursery is provided for children under age three during the 10:30 service.
- ✧ Adults grow spiritually in an adult class at 9:00 a.m.
- ✧ Adults share in a time of worship at 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
- ✧ Rally Day Celebration for the entire family at 11:45 a.m.

Questions? Call the church office at 586-3100

JOIN US AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR TOGETHER

Stories and More

A free Kindergarten preparation program

Beginning on September 20, 2011 all 4, 5, and 6 year olds are invited to join us at the church on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm for music, stories, and kindergarten preparation activities.

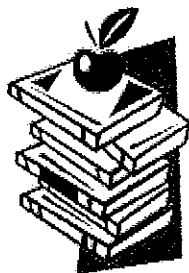
Examples of books we will read for the 1st few weeks are:

1. Little Quack by Lauren Thompson
2. If You Give a Cat a Cookie by Laura Numeroff
3. The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn

Activities this year will include songs for fun and learning, Alphabet games to learn and reinforce letter recognition, baking in the kitchen and individual help with colors and counting. Also we will do cutting and pasting projects and much more.

Please come and join us. The music and dancing starts at 1:00 pm with the Bean Bag dance and other songs like Going On a Bear Hunt. For more information call the church at 708 598-3100 or Patt at 630-679-0963.

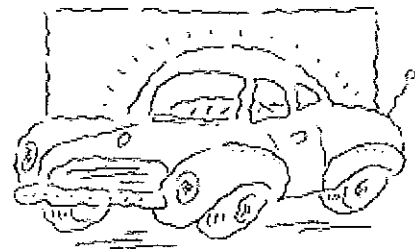
Leaders: Susan Frangella, Shirley Brunell, Linda Lavaretto, Dianne Flynn and Patt Pilgrim



On Mon. & Tue. October 3 & 4, 2011, Dave Delaney will be teaching the AARP Driver Safety Program for Senior Citizens at the Palos Hills Community Center. (8455 W. 103rd St.) Classes will be from 9am-1pm both days.

Call the Community Center to register.
708-430-4500
AARP Members- \$12.00 Reg. Fee
Non AARP Members- \$14.00 Reg. Fee

Upon completion of the program, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion, which can be brought to your Insurance company for a discount on your liability insurance.



Sacrament of Holy Communion-Sept. 4, 2011

SUNDAY	USHERS	LAY READER
Sept. 4, 2011	K. Dritz, C. Pilgrim, R. Raschke	Dave Delaney
Sept. 11, 2011	T. Brock	Rick Vogl
Sept. 18, 2011	B. Ambrosat, F. Esparza, M. Maranto	Scott Zimmerman
Sept. 25, 2011	D. Barker, D. Ciametti, T. Morrell	Terry Brock
SUNDAY	COUNTERS	FELLOWSHIP HOST
Sept. 4, 2011	Susan Frangella	
Sept. 11, 2011	Susan Frangella, Karen Hoffman	Rally Day
Sept. 18, 2011	Susan Frangella, Sandy Beal	Jackson- Dritz
Sept. 25, 2011	Susan Frangella, Shirley Brunell	Gert, Gwen

Communion Servers: Kim Ambrosat, Dave Delaney, Gordon Home, Ivy Taebel, Katie Treccani



SEPTEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<p>4</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV</p>	<p>5</p> <p>laborDay</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Cancer Sewing 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:00 p.m. C.E. Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Prayer & Care 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5:00 p.m. TOPS</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>2:00 p.m. Building & Grounds</p>
<p>11</p> <p>DAILY DAY</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 9:00 a.m. Youth Choir 10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education 11:30 a.m. Rally Day Picnic 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV</p>	<p>12</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Kid's Club 7:30 p.m. Session Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Friendship Luncheon 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. Walk Through the Bible 8:30 p.m. Apologetics & World Religions</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Prayer & Care 10:30 a.m. Stampers 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5:00 p.m. TOPS</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Fall Family Night</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Oct. Newsletter Articles Due</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 9:00 a.m. Youth Choir 10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education 11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min. 5:00 p.m. Sound System Fundraiser Concert 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Kid's Club 7:30 p.m. Outreach Meeting</p>	<p>20</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Stories & More 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. REV Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m. Walk Through the Bible 8:30 p.m. Apologetics & World Religions</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Prayer & Care 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5:00 p.m. TOPS 6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 9:00 a.m. Youth Choir 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</p>	<p>26</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Kid's Club 7:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Stories & More 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. Walk Through the Bible 8:30 p.m. Apologetics & World Religions</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Prayer & Care 10:30 a.m. Stampers 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry 7:30 p.m. Mission Committee Meeting</p>	<p>29</p> <p>5:00 p.m. TOPS 6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>30</p>	

Sept. Birthdays

September

3- Mark Maranto
4 – Erin Rose Prunty
7- Noelle Larsen
7 – Eamonn Prunty
8 – Lenora Warren
8 – Terri Lorenz
8 – Sarah Wreza
10 – Frances Nelson
11 – Debbie Raschke
11- Aga Rosa
12 – Evan Grisko
13 – Kyle Zimmerman
14 – Marge Hayes
15- Stacey Lorenz
15- Cheryl Howe
17 – Shirley Brunell
17 – Norene Krbecek
17 – Kyle Wheeler

18 – Stephanie Lorenz
18 – Dawn Rellinger
19 – Charles Huenecke
20 – Dave Delaney
21 – Colleen Petkus
22 – Debbie Zimmerman
22 – Jessica Moore
26 – Ellen Betcher
26 – Akpene Atiedu
26 – Kathie Wheeler
27 – Louise Coventry
29 – Eileen Freeman
29 – John Morgucz
30 – Barbara Hepburn
30 – Doug McKinney

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

708-598-3100 or

HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org

**Dated Material
Do Not Hold**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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