

The Looking Tree

Love lives here, Love flows from here. . .



Pastor Hilary Livingston

October 2020

Dear HoC members and friends,

What a year it has been! Who could have foreseen that we would be living through a

historic pandemic that has greatly altered how we do ministry as a congregation? I am so proud of you all for stepping up to this challenge – adapting to new virtual ways of being church and learning new technology, all while continuing to care for one another and serve our community. Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministries and missions of our church! Your dedication and commitment to our church truly inspires me and bears witness to God's grace at work in our midst.

I also boldly invite you to partner with us in all that God is doing in and through our church by prayerfully considering your financial pledge and/or giving estimate to our church in 2021.

In addition to your pledge card, you'll notice that we've included preliminary income projections, as well estimated budget figures for the ministry priorities we believe God is calling us to support in the coming year. Though the final figures may change, we hope this information will help you better understand our current financial situation and priorities as you discern your giving commitment for the coming year.

As you all know, we are blessed to have an endowment – a resource made possible by the generous gifts of those who have gone before us to provide for our present-day ministry and missions. Additionally, we receive a small amount of presbytery rent and other income annually. The rest comes from you – your offerings to this church over the course of the year. **Everything** we do is made possible by your generous giving! Every gift counts, and yours is especially important!

Please prayerfully discern your financial gift for the coming year. If you can increase your giving from last year, please do so. If you have not previously made a financial commitment or estimate, we invite you to take a step of faith and make one this year. Your generous gift ensures our financial stability for years to come while supporting the crucial "now" mission and ministries of our church that are changing lives, both within our fellowship as well as out in our community.

<u>Please return your financial commitment card to the church by October 27, 2020</u>. Thank you for your commitment and service to our church!

With enthusiastic gratitude, appreciation, and overflowing love,

Blessings,

Hilar)

HoC HAPPENINGS



HoC Outdoor Prayer Service under "The Looking Tree"

Sundays at 5:00 PM from

<u>September 13 – October 25, 2020</u>

(weather permitting)

* * *

Bring a lawn chair/blanket & a mask.

All are welcome!

THOUGHTS ON stewardship

Stewardship

by Steve Graham

From the Google search of a Stewardship Biblical definition: "A biblical world view of stewardship can be consciously defined as: 'Utilizing and managing all resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of His creation.' The central essence of a biblical world view on stewardship is managing everything God brings into the believer's life in a manner that honors God and impacts eternity. Stewardship refers to the way time, talents, material possessions, or wealth are used or given for the service of God. Stewardship begins and ends with the understanding of God's ownership of all."

Head of Christiana Presbyterian Church has survived for over 300 years through wars, internal disagreements, a fire, and, yes, even pandemics. We are now entering our traditional season of our stewardship campaign. But we need to think of stewardship throughout the year, not just for a month in the fall. Stewardship should be a way of life, whether it's in our giving to the church or in showing respect to our environment.

So start thinking ahead. How can we take care of our church? How can we take care of our community, our state, and our world?

GIVING DOES MATTER









2021 Stewardship Campaign

October

- 4th Introduce Stewardship Campaign briefly during church service
- 6th Stewardship Campaign letters get mailed
- 11th Minute for Stewardship presentation
- 14th Session meeting / Present budget First reading
- 27th Deadline for receipt of Pledge Cards

November

- 1st Announce pledge results during Sunday service
- 9th Session meeting / Second reading of budget

December

- 7th Provide congregation with 2021 Budget
- 14th Remind Session deadline for Annual Reports is January 14th

In all things, give with an attitude of gratitude!







The Unglued Project Update

By Katie Gillespie

The Unglued Team held its final Zoom meeting on August 27th with teams from Christiana, Elsmere and Rock and our consultants from Pittsburgh.

Our last project was to come up with a project to present to the group which we, as a church, could implement in the next 6 - 12 months. We came up with several great ideas, but the one that won the most interest was Friday Night Food Trucks; as a way to meet and interact with our neighbors and have fellowship with each other as well. Throwing in some games may also lead to further fellowship and fun.

During the past year the team has been encouraged to think creatively when working on challenging topics in the current age of advanced technology and dwindling membership. We will continue to meet as a team and involve the congregation in activities which will focus on moving forward as a community.

We already have seen, with the Pandemic, we are capable of adapting when necessary. Perhaps we can continue to adopt creative changes that will enhance our spiritual experience while not changing who we are as a congregation. God is with us!



SESSION MEMBERS

There are only six copies of the 20-21 Presbyterian Planning Calendars available to the first six who request one. Please contact Nancy in the church office via email at:

nancy.hoc@outlook.com



VIRTUAL CHURCH

Please join us for virtual worship on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am on our website_at:

https://hocpc.org/online-worship/ or on our YouTube channel at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjuPGVlASRtLTGrDabSTpJA

or on our Head of Christiana Presbyterian Church Facebook Page:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/HeadOfChristiana/posts/

You don't need a Facebook account to access the page.



We will also be having a **Zoom Fellowship Hour** on

Sunday mornings at 10:00 am prior to our virtual worship service.

Click this link to access:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84733627006?pwd=UzRLOXlrLzE1ci94NUF6Mi9ST3Qxdz09

Meeting ID: 865 8810 1110

Passcode: 291560

If you don't have internet access, you can call 1-929-205-6099

or **1-301-715-8592.**

You can call in just like you would call someone on a regular phone.

We will also be **mailing hard copies** of the **weekly bulletin and sermon** to those who don't have internet access. **Please let Nancy or Pastor Hilary know if you would like to be added to the mailing list.**



IMPORTANT CONTACTINFORMATION

Pastor Hilary's cellphone #: (814)-577-4269

Office Administrator **Nancy Crawford's email**:

nancy.hoc@outlook.com

Sexton Leroy Harris: (443) 207-6018

DEACONS:

Kay Brook: (302)-737-7050

Lillian Crispin: (410)-398-7036

Mary Lou Oakes: (302)-366-8016

Please reach out to us if you need anything!!!

Think like a

We should **all** check in with one another and pray for one another.

- Check in with at least one person per day by phone, email, or social media.
- Send a card to someone in the mail.
- Leave a care package on someone's porch.

Help a neighbor with grocery shopping or errands (if you can do so safely).

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WORD SEARCH 2: YARD WORK

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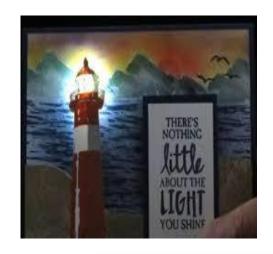
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October Is Pastor Appreciation Month







Dear Pastor Hilary,

The Lord truly blessed us when He brought you to Head of Christiana.

We thank you for your tireless efforts using the many gifts and talents you are blessed with to keep us together and to keep us focused on God's word. You are the shepherd of our church family and we want you to know how very much we appreciate all you have done and continue to do for us.

God Bless You!

Thank You from all of us!

In you,
God gave us so many
wonderful blessings.
Thank You







Pastor Appreciation

HOC CALENDAR — October Happenings

Sun Oct 04 World Communion Sunday & Peace & Global Witness Offering

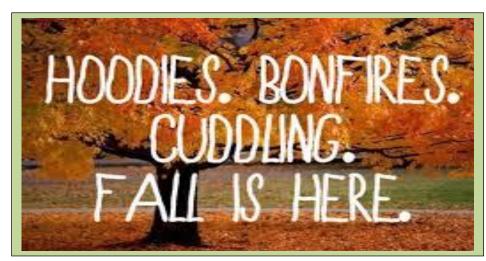
5:00pm Outdoor Communion Service "Under the Looking Tree"

(weather permitting)

Tues Oct 13 LOOKING TREE DEADLINE

Mon Oct 14 6:00pm Session

Tue Oct 19 7:00pm Admin & Finance Commission via Zoom



Don't let the circumstances of your life dictate how you feel. A good mood doesn't have to depend on external conditions.

Peace of mind comes the moment you choose to be peaceful with any situation.







OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



Oct 5 Trevor Christian

Oct 18 Charlotte Condliffe

Oct 21 Staci Truitt

Oct 25 Kayleigh Davis

Oct 26 John Murray

BORN IN OCTOBER

- Loves to talk
- Beautiful inside out
- Not deceitful
- Sympathetic
- Always making friends and popular
- Easily hurt but recovers easily
- Daydreamer
- Emotional
- Loves to travel, the arts and literature
- Loves the outdoors
- Spendthrift

2 Jappy Birthday to You!

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