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Love lives here, Love flows from here...

November 2020



Dear HoC members and friends,

A Reformer's Advice for Christians During a Pandemic

We just commemorated Reformation Sunday, the anniversary of the great reformer, Martin Luther nailing his "95 Theses" to the door at Wittenberg, thus beginning the Protestant Reformation.

Count

Martin Luther, who himself lived through a pandemic, had some advice for his fellow Christ followers that is relevant for us today as we live through this COVID-19 period. Luther's advice to Christians during a pandemic:

Pastor Hilary Livingston

"Use medicine; take potions which can help you]; fumigate house, yard, and street [wash your hands, use hand sanitizer]; shun persons and places where your neighbor does not need your presence or has recovered, and act like a [person] who wants to help put out the burning city. What else is the epidemic but a fire, which, instead of consuming wood and straw, devours life and body? Therefore I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine, and take it. I shall avoid persons and places where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance infect and pollute others, and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me, and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me, however, I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely, as stated above. See, this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God."

Basically, Luther advised Christians in his day to do the modern-day equivalent of wearing masks, washing our hands, practicing social distancing, and taking the pandemic seriously.

Sound advice for all of us as we continue to navigate this pandemic! Stay safe and well!

Blessings,

Hilary

HoC HAPPENINGS

Dear Friends,

On behalf of The Newark Partnership, I wanted to highlight our school supply drive that was announced in our last newsletter.

Last year, this drive benefited the teachers at the City of Newark's four elementary schools. We collected over 5,000 supplies. This year we hope to "collect" over 6,000. Given social distancing challenges, we moved our "collection" to an online platform.

Click or type into your browser, the link below and you can shop for specific supplies that teachers asked for, or you can use a credit card to enter an amount and we will pick for you. I would like to encourage you to support The Newark Partnership by contributing and sharing with your networks.

https://www.roonga.com//tnpnewark

Our drive will run through November 10, 2020. Then, all supplies will be shipped directly to the elementary schools. A flyer is also attached to this email.

If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Reeves at: Debbie_Reeves@comcast.net or Polly Sierer, TNP Chair at: pasierer@comcast.net or on her cell 302-690-1741



VETERAN'S DAY 2020

Veteran's Day this year falls on Wednesday, Nov. 11th so we will have our annual HoC Salute to Veterans insert on Sunday, November 8th. Please let me know if you need to add someone to our list, or if you have changes no later than Nov. 5th. Thank you! Contact me at <u>nancy.hoc@outlook.com</u>



Thank You

Hello Friends,

The Stewardship Campaign for the Church's 2021 budget year has just concluded. On behalf of your Administration and Finance Commission, "Thank You" to both those who estimated or pledged a commitment of financial support, and to those who did neither, but faithfully give to the Church throughout the year. The financial support of all of us is vital to the ability of our Church to function, bringing God's word, helping friends and neighbors in need, and endowing each of us with spiritual understanding, support, care and guidance.

Not unexpectedly, to this date, giving during 2020 has decreased, but not as much as feared. Likewise, our expenses have declined, but not as much as hoped. Most of our expenses are incurred to pay our staff and to maintain our programs and facilities. Many costs are fixed and ongoing, so our deficit exceeded our 2020 budget income expectations. Spending has been reduced where feasible and some personnel costs have been reduced. We still depend on each other to provide needed financial support, therefore, I challenge all members of our Church, even though they may have pledged, to consider giving more in the event their financial condition so allows during the coming year.

By now, many of us are growing tired of the inconveniences and restrictions necessitated by the coronavirus. One thing we all miss is being able to join together as a family. I think we all appreciate the extra efforts undertaken to bring us a virtual Sunday Service, a Vespers Service and the many calls and cards sent and received by all of us. These efforts will serve to preserve those bonds that bind us together as a congregation until we can safely meet again.

Better Days Are Ahead...





by John Brook





2021 Stewardship Campaign

November

- 8th Announce pledge results during Sunday service
- 9th Session meeting / Second reading & Budget approval

In all things, give with an attitude of gratitude!



Thank you to everyone who sent cards and gifts to me during October for Clergy Appreciation Month! Your thoughtful words and kindness mean so much to me!

Pastor Hílary



Autumn Prayer

God of all seasons, we thank you for Autumn. We thank you for the touch of coolness in the air that gives us a new burst of energy, for the coloring of trees that shows the creativity of the Divine Artist, for the falling leaves that reveal the strength of the branches, for the hues of fields that bring peace to our souls, for the smiles on pumpkins that bring joy to children, for the fall harvest which brings us gratitude for the bounty of our land, for this change of seasons that reveals the circle of life. God of all seasons, as you transform the earth, transform us by your Spirit. Amen.

Thanks to Betsy VanCulin for sharing this Autumn Prayer with all of us!



SESSION MEMBERS

There are only five copies of the 20-21 Presbyterian Planning Calendars available to the first five who request one. Please contact Nancy in the church office via email at: <u>nancy.hoc@outlook.com</u>



VIRTUAL CHURCH

Please join us for **virtual worship** on **Sunday mornings at 11:00 AM** on our **website** at: <u>https://hocpc.org/online-worship/</u>

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.

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We will also be having a Zoom Fellowship Hour on

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

Click this link to access:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85307878063?pwd=SWhX0EJCR1dvWnY1TEN5S3FXVmNiQT09

Meeting ID: 853 0787 8063

Passcode: 957260

(This is a new link – it is valid through January 3, 2021.)

If you don't have internet access, you can call 1-646-558-8656

or <mark>1-301-715-8592</mark>.

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



IMPORTANT

CONTACT INFORMATION

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!!!





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).



CANNING Solution on page 22

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HOC CALENDAR — November Happenings

| Sun | Nov 01 | All Saints Day |
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| Sun | Nov 01 | Daylight Saving Time Ends (Turn clocks back 1 hour) |
| Mon | Nov 02 | 7:00pm Worship Commission (Virtual Meeting) |
| Mon | Nov 09 | 7:00pm Session (Virtual Meeting) |
| Tues | Nov 10 | LOOKING TREE DEADLINE |
| Mon | Nov 16 | 7:00pm Admin & Finance Commission via Zoom |
| Thur | Nov 26 | HAPPYTHANKSGIVING |
| Sun | Nov 29 | 1 st Sunday of Advent |





NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



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- Nov 26 Linda Dunn
- Nov 28 Landon Gill
- Nov 29 Lillian Crispin

