



The Looking Tree

Love lives here, Love flows from here...

MARCH 2021

Hello Members and Friends of Head of Christiana,



Pastor Hilary Livingston

We hope you are all staying safe and well during this COVID-19 pandemic. I don't think any of us anticipated living through such a historic and challenging time. I wanted to update everyone on the situation regarding our worship services and ministry activities at HoC. Last fall, the session made the difficult decision to suspend all in-person indoor worship services and activities for the remainder of the 2020 calendar year. Though this was a tough decision, I believe it was the right one to make, given the pervasiveness of the COVID-19 virus and the vulnerability of our congregation and broader community.

I know that not gathering together for worship in our sanctuary has been a sacrifice, and I appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation with this decision.

With the distribution of new vaccines to effectively protect people from the deadly COVID-19 virus, we have discerned that it is prudent to begin making plans to resume in-person worship in our sanctuary. We have appointed a task force that is meeting to make concrete plans and develop a timeframe for safely resuming in-person worship in our sanctuary.

Tentatively, we are aiming for resuming in-person services in our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021, with appropriate safety precautions. This date is tentative, and dependent upon conditions related to virus spread, local case numbers, and vaccine distribution. A final determination will be made 30 days prior to this date. This timeframe may be altered if conditions warrant so doing. We will continue to keep the congregation informed of our decision-making progress.

There are some things that you can do right now to help us facilitate this process:

1. Please get your COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible. This will not only protect yourself from this virus, but will also slow the spread and improve the overall transmission numbers in our community. Here is where to find detailed information and timelines of the COVID-19 vaccine distribution by state:

Continued on next page....

Delaware: COVID-19 Vaccine - Delaware's Coronavirus Official Website or by calling 1-833-643-1715.

Maryland: Coronavirus - Maryland Department of Health - Vaccine or by calling 1-410-996-1005.

Pennsylvania: COVID-19 Vaccine (pa.gov) or by calling 1-877-724-3258.

2. Please pray for the pastor and session members as we discern and plan how and when to safely resume in-person worship services and activities in our church building. This is a challenging process that will assume a certain level of risk for all involved. Pray that we make wise and faithful decisions, balancing safety risks with the spiritual needs of our congregation.

3. Continue to be the church! I'm so proud of everyone for all the hard work and sacrifices we've made over the past year to continue worshipping, fellowshiping, caring for one another, and serving our neighbors in Christ's name. I believe we've made a powerful witness to our community by demonstrating Christ's love to the most vulnerable in both our congregation and community. I urge everyone to continue that good work!

I know that it has been a long slog, but let us not become impatient or despondent. There is a light at the end of the tunnel, and we are very close to reaching it! Stay strong! Stay safe! We'll get there!

Blessings,

Hilary



Jesus

The Faithful One

The confidence we have...
the trust we hold...
the hope we carry...
rest in His *faithfulness*.

Every promise
He has made
He purposes to fulfill.
He has the authority to
accomplish all He has spoken.
His power is limitless...
His character changeless...
His love endless!



Addressing the Pandemic Making Positive Change in a World of Disarray

The WORLD may be having a Pandemic and may be in disarray, but the health of HEAD of CHRISTIANA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH is excellent. Above and beyond kudos go to Pastor Hilary, to Office Manager Nancy, to Organist/Music Director Linnea, and to Sexton Leroy. Throughout this period, they have been performing yeomen duties. The Church is buzzing. Inspirational Church activities are being planned and conducted and communications are flowing. And we absolutely cannot overlook kudos also going to our Commission Chairs and Deacons. It is through them that the Word is being passed and that the work of the Church is being accomplished.

We have all very readily learned the meaning and use of the word “VIRTUAL.” The telephone lines are kept active with Church members keeping in touch and ensuring that all members successfully come through this period of masks, social distancing, and washing hands. And not to be remiss, for many of us, the use of Zoom has become a part of life, whether or not we are into technology. When the need came to go beyond voice-to-voice technology, and face-to-face communications became relevant, Zoom was there.

But our real goal is to move beyond this pandemic period. And we know that our goal will have been met when we can meet back in our Church. And when we do, it is certain that we will have a new perspective of the value of our Church community and how it provides an environment in which there is a sincere sense of caring and support for each other. It is ordained that we will make it through this unique period of world-wide disarray, and through it we will have developed a new perspective of the meaning and value of community and the meaning of life and the value and the many ways we support each other. Our Church community is strong and an extremely valuable part of each of our lives together!





ELKTON COMMUNITY KITCHEN NEWS

We're happy to report that the Elkton Community Kitchen continues to support those in need during these difficult times, and that Head of Christiana continues to play a part.

"Bag lunches to go" are now the norm for safety purposes, although they did have a hot meal inside (socially distanced of course) for the annual Christmas Luncheon. Head of Christiana was able to contribute to that meal by supplying Christmas cheer in the form of six dozen home baked Christmas cookies. They were very much appreciated!

Many thanks to Lillian Crispin, Rosie White, Linda Huffman, Debbie Reeves, Kathy Graham & MaryLou Oakes for making this happen!

On February 26 H.O.C. hosted a "Bag & Go" lunch, which was gratefully received and appreciated.



HoC VIRTUAL WORSHIP INFO

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 10:00am** prior to our virtual worship service.

Click this link to access:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83148433166?pwd=dHVIMWIKWUdqSXo1OGFWNUw4ZU95Zz09>

Meeting ID: 831 4843 3166

Passcode: 599347

(This is a new link – it is valid through March 28, 2021.)

If you don't have internet access, you can call 1-312-626-6799 or 1-646-558-8656.

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

We are also 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.**

HoC CONTACT INFO



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!!!



Spring

*Spring appears in whispers
and hushed tones,
as the bellowing winter
bows away.*

*Drowsy flowers come to
attention,
waking from their sleep-
yawning;*

*with heads turned upward towards
the Maestro called Sun-
I watch with anticipation
as...
the concert begins.*



Warriors Helping Warriors

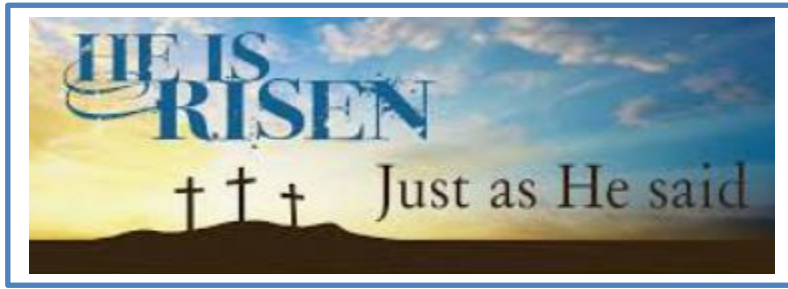
Submitted by Ed Crispin

The grateful thanks of “Warriors Helping Warriors” goes out to the Head of Christiana Presbyterian Church for, at the Session’s February 8, 2021 meeting, awarding \$10,000 to be added to the Longwood Foundation’s award of \$20,000; the two awards to provide the \$30,000 needed by “Warriors Helping Warriors” to construct within their homeless shelter an “Americans w/Disabilities Act” compliant bedroom and bathroom. Having these two facilities will provide what is needed for “The Brian Conley Veterans Resiliency Center” to become certified as a “Veterans Administration Supported Shelter.” Obtaining this certification will provide that the Center will receive Veterans Administrative funding that will assist in offsetting the approximately \$20,000 per month cost that the Conley’s (the family that established and now manages and obtains funds to operate the Center which includes providing room and board for those using the center) have had to raise for approximately three years, primarily through grants, in order to keep the center open and functioning.

To provide a condensed overview of the Veterans Center and what this means, the idea for the Center began when Kevin, a 44-year-old Army Major, returned from active duty in Afghanistan to medical issues incurred while he was on active duty. Responding to these issues resulted in nine operations and a medical discharge from the Army. Because of Kevin’s experiences, particularly that of navigating the governmental systems upon his return from active duty, Kevin, with the assistance of his parents, Bill and Marsha, purchased a house located on Broad Street in Middletown, Delaware. From there over two years of work went into an almost total reconstruction of the house and its preparation to house and feed twelve (a maximum of fifteen) homeless military veterans. During this period Marsha became an expert at preparing and executing grant requests, while Bill and Kevin became expert at identifying and working with contractors, and other individuals who were willing to assist them in any way possible with their dream.

On April 27, 2019, the Center opened! Since then, a steady flow through of homeless military veterans, almost all of whom, using the Center’s system of counseling on veterans’ benefits, legal assistance, assistance with finding a job, help in managing money, and assistance in identifying permanent housing, have departed the center with a job and appropriate permanent housing plus a ready at any time social network back at the Center that will gladly assist with any and all problems. Has the money of the Church gone to a good cause? You bet it has! And although there are many good causes, it would be extremely difficult to find one that surpasses “Warriors Helping Warriors!”

P.S. The work of “Warriors Helping Warriors” is never-ending. The Conley’s are to be commended for what they do and continue to do and how they gladly put so much of themselves into their endeavor. They need all the support they can obtain and there are many ways to give them support. Telephone (302) 696-2318. Their “Warriors Helping Warriors” website is www.whwonline.org. Should you, when the Covid restrictions are relaxed, like to tour the Veterans Center, you are invited to do so. Please telephone the Center at the above telephone number to arrange a visit.



TENTATIVE EASTER SUNDAY (APRIL 4, 2021) SCHEDULE:

- **7:00am – Outdoor Sunrise Service** in HoC Cemetery
- **11:00am – Indoor Service in HoC Sanctuary**

Appropriate COVID precautions will be taken.

Please wear a mask.

Communion will be celebrated at the later service. A virtual worship option will be available for those who do not feel comfortable attending in-person worship. Please visit our website, Facebook page, or YouTube channel to access the virtual service.

Session will make the final decision about sanctuary reopening schedule at least 30 days prior to Easter.

Please watch your email/HoC website/HoC Facebook page for details and schedule changes.

For those without internet access, information will be sent to you through the mail and/or dropped off to you at your home.

Please contact the pastor or a session member with questions.



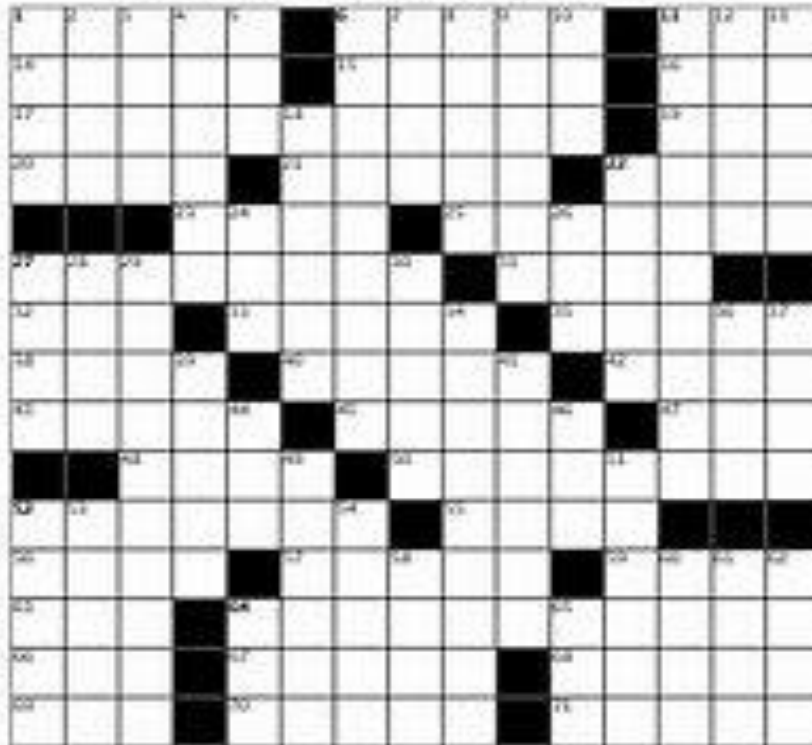
Keeping Busy During Covid

“Crafty” Betsy VanCulin has been using her Cricut cutting machine to produce some lovely works of art. Check it out!



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD Puzzle : 1



ACROSS

- 1. Flood
- 6. Abyss
- 11. Tibetan gazelle
- 14. Oilcan
- 15. Passageway
- 16. Flow back
- 17. Easily decided
- 19. Born
- 20. Golf mounds
- 21. Relaxes
- 22. Authenticating mark
- 23. Rowing implements
- 25. Put into a sheath
- 27. Temperance
- 31. Abominable snowman
- 32. Exclamation of surprise
- 33. Rustic
- 35. Lawful
- 38. Seizures
- 40. Palatable
- 42. Egypt's river

- 43. Main artery
- 45. Having lobes
- 47. Title of a knight
- 48. Yelp
- 50. State in Malaysia
- 52. Lighted by the moon
- 55. Vex
- 56. Parched
- 57. Bird homes
- 59. Boss on a shield
- 63. Spanish hero
- 64. Poverty
- 66. Meadow
- 67. Consumed
- 68. Monetary unit of Lesotho
- 69. Former measure of length
- 70. Hold responsible
- 71. Regions

DOWN

- 1. Smoke deposit
- 2. Hollow cylinder

- 3. On sheltered side
- 4. Muscle
- 5. Period of history
- 6. Pertaining to a cadastre
- 7. Sibilate
- 8. Remains of a fire
- 9. Sloppy
- 10. Encountered
- 11. Specialist in genetics
- 12. Belief involving sorcery
- 13. White poplar tree
- 18. Sea god
- 22. Glossy
- 24. Atmosphere
- 26. Snakelike fish
- 27. Couch
- 28. State of USA
- 29. Formed in grape-like clusters
- 30. Aquatic opossum
- 34. Rake
- 36. Hip bones
- 37. Web-footed aquatic bird
- 39. Rise to one's feet
- 41. Delete from a list
- 44. Tool for making holes in leather
- 46. Indian dish
- 49. Resembling a pine cone
- 51. Asexual
- 52. Twinned crystal
- 53. Bay window
- 54. Outer coat of a seed
- 58. Stalk
- 60. Pit
- 61. Goatskin bag for holding wine
- 62. Singles
- 64. Debutante
- 65. North American nation

Word Search Puzzle

St Patrick's Day

WORD SEARCH

T U U H D V B L A R N E Y E R
H I A W W U C D D S A I N T L
M S X H D M B E P D O H O L E
T H I H C W A L L W V O E I P
I Z K R I M W R I T Z M P M R
U M M U I J W M C N I W A E E
D S H A M R O C K H R C R R C
T N G Q G B W F B G N A A I H
T E H C L O V E R V I N D C A
C E L S D N A L E R I J E K U
H R O P A T R I C K D T D K N
A G R A I N B O W G O L D L E
R D I B U H A R P L U C K T J
M K O T A T O P Y A D I L O H
V F T E B I N C D L A R E M E

BLARNEY
CELTIC
CHARM
CLOVER
DUBLIN
EMERALD

GOLD
GREEN
HARP
HOLIDAY
IRELAND
IRISH

JIG
LEPRECHAUN
LIMERICK
LUCK
MARCH
PARADE

PARADE
PATRICK
POTATO
RAINBOW
SAINT
SHAMROCK

HOC CALENDAR — March Happenings

Monday	Mar	01	7:00pm	Session Virtual Meeting
Sunday	Mar	07		Third Sunday in Lent
Monday	Mar	08	7:00pm	Worship Commission Meeting
Wednesday	Mar	10		Looking Tree Deadline
Sunday	Mar	14		Fourth Sunday in Lent
Sunday	Mar	14		DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS (Turn clocks ahead 1 hr)
Monday	Mar	15	7:00pm	Admin & Finance Meeting (Zoom)
Saturday	Mar	20		First Day of Spring!
Sunday	Mar	21		Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sunday	Mar	28		Palm Sunday



“Act as if what you do makes a difference, IT DOES!”

William James



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- Mar 4 Sonia Combs
- Mar 5 Mark Mankin
- Mar 5 Jane Murray
- Mar 16 Erica Sutton
- Mar 26 Sophia Marianiello

