



The Looking Tree

Love lives here, Love flows from here...

July 2023

Hello Members and Friends of Head of Christiana,



Pastor Mark Douyard

“Re-marks” from Pastor Mark...

As I write this piece for the July newsletter, we are two days away from the summer solstice, the official start of summer. Barb and I live in an adult community in Smyrna. Given the nature of adult communities we do not have much of a yard, but we do have a garden in front of our house and room for some flowers in the back around our patio, as well as a couple of planters on the deck. I don't know about you, but I love flowers in the summertime. My maternal grandfather was quite the gardener and all summer we enjoyed fresh cut gladiolas, dahlias, zinnias, roses and more. My gladiolas did not come up this year for some reason but my dahlias are growing taller

by the minute. And I know it is probably too late, but I just planted some hollyhock seeds where the local rabbit ate my zinnias two weeks ago. I mention these things because for me, gardening is a way of connecting with God's creation. Time in the dirt is visceral way of connecting with God. A couple of things happen, at least for me:

First, time slows down. I would love to plant a gladiola bulb tomorrow morning and have brilliant orange flowers the next afternoon, but it doesn't work that way. Gardening requires patience (of which I have little – just ask Barb), so gardening helps me in learning how to be more patient. Nature grows at its own pace and we must learn to adapt to that.

Second, there is something satisfying about getting our hands into the soil, planting the seeds or bulbs, weeding, mulching, watering... watching things grow... tracking the blooms on the lilies as they develop and start to open. All point to the beauty of God's creation. To me, working in the garden is a form of prayer and praise. “A Sabbath time.” to borrow a phrase from Wayne Muller, author of *Sabbath*.

Third, we can take lessons from our gardening activities and relate them to our daily lives. We should nurture our relationships with others as we would the plants in our gardens. We must water and feed our relationships with other people in order for them to grow and flourish. We must learn to patient with others. The same applies to our relationship with our creator. Our relationship with God requires time, attention and patience as well.

So this summer, try and look for new ways to connect with God. If you are not a gardener, perhaps you can find God while admiring the blooms in someone else's garden. Perhaps you can find God in the beauty of a sunrise, or a sunset at the beach. God's creation is all around us and we only need pause from time to time to acknowledge God's creation and presence in our lives.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Mark

HoC HAPPENINGS



News from Care & Fellowship



July Nifty Wiftys

Due to the July 4th holiday being on the first Tuesday, July Nifty Wiftys will be held on **July 11th at 11:30 at Wesley's**. If you haven't joined us yet, please consider doing so because we have a great time and the food is delicious!!!

~ ~ ~

August 6th—Summer Pot-Luck Salad Luncheon



Please join us after church on August 6th for a **Summer Pot-Luck Salad Luncheon**.

Everyone is invited to bring a salad to share.

Any variety of salad is welcome—vegetable, fruit, pasta, potato, protein—the only limitation is your imagination (if you bring a green salad, please bring dressing, too).



Looking forward to seeing everyone!!!

HoC HAPPENINGS

submitted by Donna Reed

Hi Family,

We successfully served God through our ministry at Hope on Friday. There were 20 clients who came and enjoyed our menu of hot dogs, beans, watermelon, and dessert. This year we tried a Hot Dog Fixings table with sauerkraut, chili and 2 cheeses, onions, catsup, mustard, and relish. Everyone was able to fix it their way. It was a fun way to picnic together.

We were able to serve with the students at Brennan. They may become a permanent service group at Hope. We helped to introduce them to this ministry.

A client named Diane said she had been craving hot dogs for weeks. Gene said he did not like hot dogs, but he enjoyed the beans. Ryan was wearing the shoes that someone in our group donated last month. James came and sat at our table while we were eating after our service. It reminds me that our smiles and friendly ears sometimes mean as much as the food.

Brian gave us a challenge. Can you name 10 body parts that are spelled with only 3 letters?



CRAFTING TO-GATHER

at HoC

Come enjoy crafting with us on
Saturday, July 29th from
10am to 12 noon.





So, what was that guy doing on the roof of the Christian Ed building anyway???

A roofer was called out twice to address a leaking roof around the chimney, but he determined the problem was caused by the deteriorated mortar in the chimney. Several chimney repair companies were called in and they all agreed that the deterioration was caused by age and acidic moisture present in the gas fired heater exhaust. A company called Swift Services, Inc. was given the job based on good reviews and best price.

The remediation was to grind out the old mortar between the bricks and replace it with new mortar plus a new cement cap. Finally, a stainless steel liner was placed inside the chimney to isolate the acidic exhaust gasses from the masonry. A big job indeed! It may still be necessary to have a roofer return to address peripheral damage to the roof itself from the leak, but at least the chief cause has been addressed. Fingers are crossed!



Attic water damage.

An Independence Day Prayer

by Margaret Cagle



*Lord, on July fourth we'll celebrate
Independence Day in our nation.
You gave us the truth to set us free.
You sent Jesus to die for our salvation.
We thank you for the precious freedom
That we have in our nation today.
We know this country's not perfect,
But we honor our nation, the USA.*

*We thank you for the Founding Fathers,
Who for freedom took a brave stand.
Many placed their very lives in peril
To start a free country in a new land.*

*I thank you for the brave soldiers,
Who gave their lives to keep us free.
They gave their ultimate sacrifice
For freedom for Americans like me.*

*As we shoot fireworks and celebrate
With patriotic concerts and parades,
We thank you for all your blessings
And your great love that never fades.*

*As we gather with our loved ones
For picnics and barbecues and fun,
We want to thank you for everything,
Especially for sending your only Son!*



*Wednesday, July 12th at 7:00pm is
the date of our summer concert.
Please bring a lawn chair or blanket
to sit on so you're comfortable.
And bring family & friends too!!!*

THE HISTORY of HOPE DINING ROOM with HoC

Our Mission dates back to 1984. At that time, we still held three boards at our church: Session, Trustees and Deacons. Outreach Mission was conducted through the Deacons.

Albert Chance, from the First Presbyterian Church and a member of the board of Hope Dining Room, came to ask our Church to join them in this Mission. We were to take on a Friday serving of a meal. That night the vote was taken, and we committed to serving every second Friday of the month.

Rosemarie White was Chair of the committee and became the Chair to get this venture started. Russell Bingaman loaned us a cookbook that he had for his job as a chef at St. Andrews School. Loraine was the Coordinator at Hope the year we started. Rosie reported monthly to her with the menu - plan for our day. Helpers in the kitchen were Phyllis Gardner, who never minded cutting up onions, and Margaret Holland. The three women cooked and cleaned the kitchen. Leading our dining room serve was Paul Shirkey. He was very faithful in his duty.

One month we cooked spaghetti with meat sauce and only had a handful of guests partake of the meal. We called the Catholic Orphanage to ask if they could use all the leftover cooked noodles and sauce. It was hard to gage how many would be there on a given day. We did find it a worthy mission to support. As you know, we are still serving at Hope Dining Room. This will be our 39th year in 2023.

Each month we served a different menu until the end of 1985. Then the board of Hope decided it would make it easier for the Coordinator if we had the same meal each month. That is when Renie Newman's Sloppy Joe came onto the menu—which we still cook and normally serve with green bean casserole and applesauce. Our Covid-19 menu was a sandwich, cookie, fruit, and chips served in a box.

Since 1984 we have changed Coordinator's: Rosemarie White, Margaret Holland, Betty Kniskern, Gean Hopkins- Barnard, Carol Cole, John and Katie Hill, John and Kay Brooks, Ellen Patterson, Jeanne Walter-Hasting, Debbie Reeves and now Donna Reed.

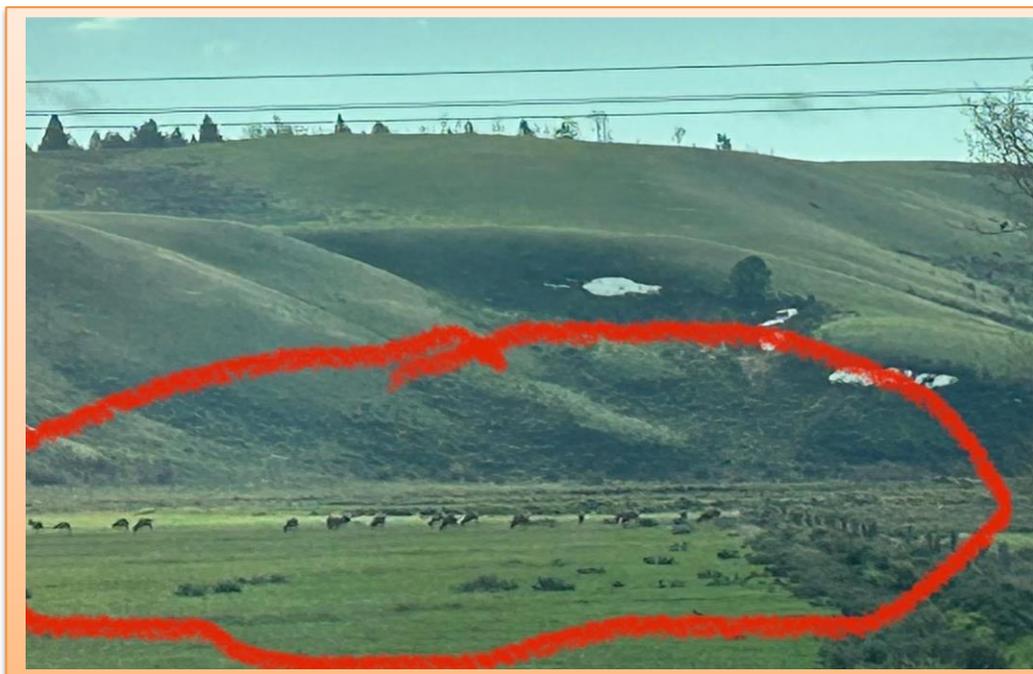
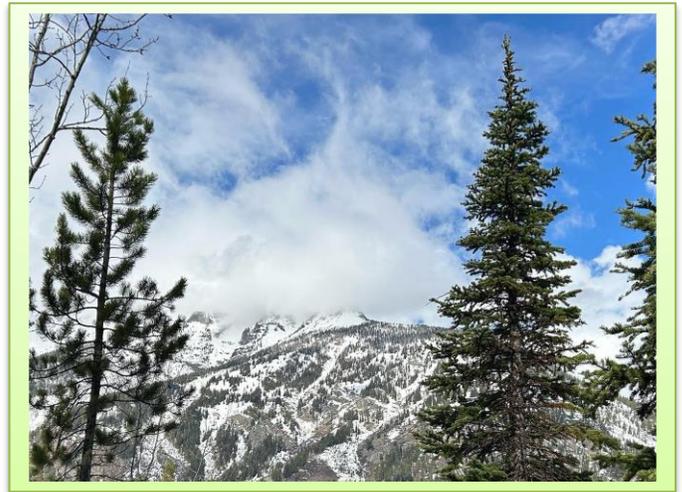
Our servers are very important too: Paul Shirkey, Bob White, Betty and Jim Kniskern, Russell Holland, John and Katie Hill, Ed Barnard, Bob and Sally Benedict, John and Kay Brooks, Kay Wood, Steve and Kathy Graham, Lillian and Ed Crispin, Betty Kackley, Jerry Cole, Al and Madeleine Polig, Clint Cullum, Betty Ferguson, Claire Herrington. Forgive me if any names were missed.

It takes devotion and dedication to keep this project – mission going. We are a small congregation, but we are still mighty in Mission to help our neighbors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CONGREGATION
OF HEAD OF CHRISTIANA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
for following Gods Commandment's.

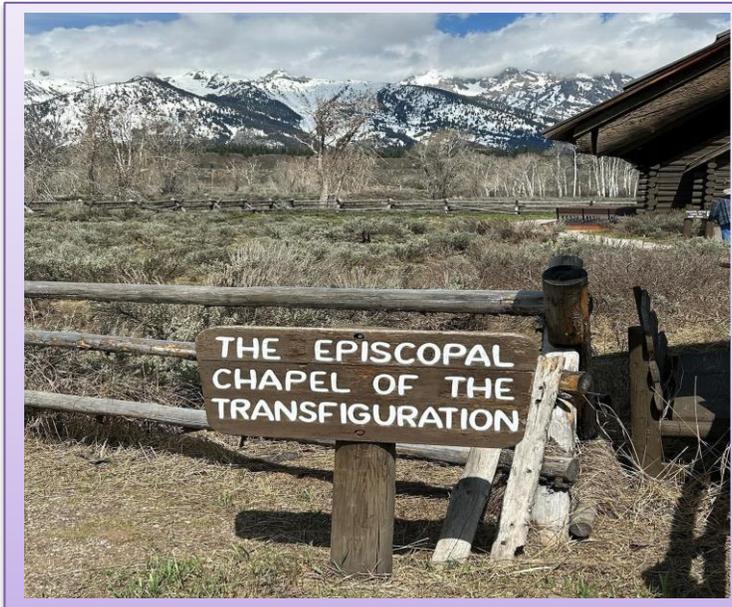
Our first command is to *"Love your God with all your heart and all your soul with all your might."*
And the second one is *"Love your neighbor as you love yourself."*

SCENES FROM HILARY'S TRAVELS



Elk Refuge
in Jackson
Hole

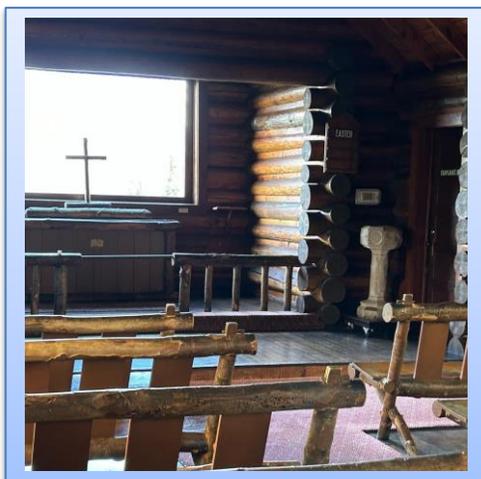
SCENES FROM HILARY'S TRAVELS



Rustic Chapel of the Transfiguration



Chapel of the Transfiguration



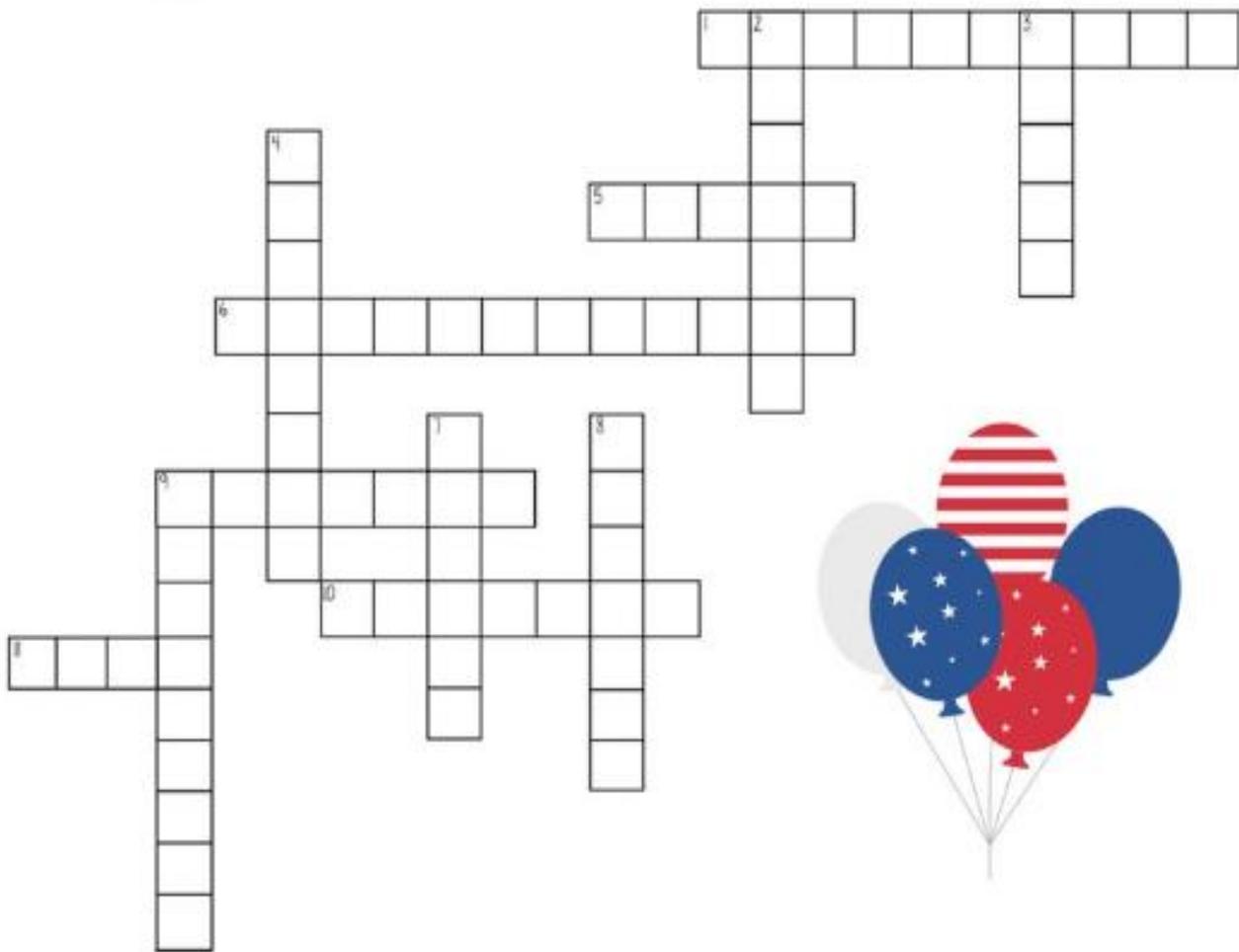
Bull Moose



Bison up close and personal!

4TH OF JULY

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

DOWN

1. GEORGE _____ WAS THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
5. THERE ARE 50 OF THESE ON THE AMERICAN FLAG
6. THE DECLARATION OF _____
9. INDEPENDENCE IS ANOTHER WORD FOR...
11. RED, WHITE, AND _____

2. THE UNITED STATES OF _____
3. OUR FLAG'S NICKNAME IS "OLD _____"
4. THE STAR _____ BANNER.
7. HAPPY _____ OF JULY!
8. WITH _____ AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.
9. THESE LIGHT UP THE SKY!
10. THERE ARE 13 OF THESE ON OUR FLAG.



Word Search Puzzle

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

ALADDIN
BEANSTOCK
BEARS
BEAST
BEAUTY
BIG BAD WOLF
CHICKEN LITTLE
CINDERELLA
ELVES
EMPEROR
FAIRY
GODMOTHER

FROG PRINCE
GENIE
GIANT
GOLDEN
GOOSE
GOLDILOCKS
GRANDMOTHER
GRETTEL
HANSEL
HUNTER
JACK
KING MIDAS

LAMP
LITTLE MERMAID
LITTLE RED RIDING
HOOD
MIRROR
PEA
PINOCCHIO
PRINCESS
RAPUNZEL
RUMPELSTILTZKIN
SEVEN DWARFS
SHOEMAKER

SINBAD
SNOW QUEEN
SNOW WHITE
STEPMOTHER
STEPSISTERS
SWAN
THIEVES
THREE LITTLE
PIGS
THUMBELINA
UNDINE
WISHES

HOC CALENDAR — July Happenings



Tuesday	July	04	HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY	
Tuesday	June	11	11:30am	Nifty-Wiftys @ Wesley's
Tuesday	July	11		Looking Tree Deadline
Wednesday	July	12	7:00pm	Concert Under the Trees
Monday	June	17	7:00pm	Admin & Finance (via Zoom)
Sunday	July	23	HILARY'S SABBATICAL ENDS	
Saturday	July	29	10-12pm	Crafting To-Gather
Sun	Aug	06	12:00pm	Pot-Luck Salad Luncheon

One small positive thought in the morning, can change your whole day!"



JULY BIRTHDAYS



July 3	Travis Christian	July 10	Sarah Tipton
July 8	Kay Brook	July 28	Virginia Cullum
July 9	Debbie Reeves	July 28	Aileen Murray
July 10	Betty Kackley		

