

Hillside Happenings

July & August
2020
Newsletter



Newsletter Contents:

Page 1

- Article

Page 2

- Article (Cont.)

Page 3

- Student
Ministries

Page 4

- Family Night
- Clothing Ministry
- Live Stream

Page 5

- VBS
- Church Calendar

Page 6

- July Calendar

Page 7

- August Calendar

PK's Points

Ministry in the Midst of Change

Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. ²But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. ³But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. ⁵For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord..." Corinthians 4:1-5a

The "god of this age" has definitely blinded the minds of many in our world today, but by God's grace, we have received sight and are called to shine the light upon our world by preaching Christ Jesus the Lord for all to hear. That is always a difficult task as we consider the enemy whom we are up against, but our God is bigger. It is also a difficult task as we consider the national issues that we are facing and the unprecedented measures, whether they be right or wrong, that government agencies are impressing upon people. However, "we have this ministry" (of sharing the Gospel) and "we do not lose heart!"

Ministry in the midst of change is always hard, but we must be reminded and encouraged to not lose heart. Do not lose your heart for others. In the midst of a health scare, let's maintain a heart for others. Don't allow the lack of activity or limited causal interactions with other people to cause you to become too self-focused. We are to be reaching out to others as we have an opportunity to minister.

The response of Martin Luther to ministering in the midst of a health crisis during his days of ministry was shared a number of weeks ago in our Wednesday evening, online Bible study. It is so good that I would like to share it again as we consider this thought of being faithful in ministering to one another and being ministers of the Gospel during such a time as this.

"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to

(Continued on Page 2)

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.” - Martin Luther

What a great response. What a great challenge for you and I as we strive to minister in the midst of change. What a great encouragement as we minister the mercy that we have received without losing heart.

We know there will always be challenges in ministry. This year has had its lion's share for sure, but let's be excited for God to be at work in and throughout our lives as we renounce what is shameful and walk in uprightness as we handle God's Word, living out its Truths as they apply to our lives (1 Cor. 4:1-2). And may our ministry reap everlasting rewards for the glory of God.

There is much for us to be excited about in regards to the ministry at Hillside. I want to thank you for your continued faithfulness as we have transitions from online services to now back in-person services. You have shown your faithfulness not just in your online participation, and, now, for many of you your physical attendance back in the building, but you have also remained faithful in your giving. This is a blessing to us as we know of a number of ministries and religious institutions that are struggling financially due to unexpected circumstances. Our church camps (Skyview, Patmos, W.O.L, Sciota) and Christian colleges, some missionaries and certain churches have been impacted severely during this time.

Because of your faithfulness, and being a blessing to your local body of believers, we may have an opportunity to be a blessing to others towards the end of this year.

We have a great opportunity coming up to preach Christ to individuals as we consider our plan for Vacation Bible School this summer. Let's bath our VBS, scheduled for July 20-23 from 9:30-11:30 AM, in prayer these next few weeks as we prepare.

Sometime in August, it is the pastors' desire to re-introduce Sunday School – wanting to begin with a time in where we will recognize our 2020 high school graduates. There's much to discuss (including service times) and dates, but we continue to believe that Christians today need more than 1 hour of Biblical instruction a week if we are going to minister effectively to our world.

Our Small Group and Wednesday Family Nights will continue through the summer until the Word of Life/Synergy programs start up with the school year. We will have a business meeting on Wednesday evening in late August/early September as the uniqueness of this year may enable us to do some really exciting things (bless others in ministry).

***“Therefore, since we have this ministry,
as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart.”***

Student Ministries

Synergy Snapshot:

While our students were bummed to miss the GO Team this year, they were thrilled to attend a Summer Retreat at Skyview Ranch on June 16-17. With a rotation of fun, team building, discipleship, and service, it was a perfect retreat! Our 15 students enjoyed a High Ropes course, paintball, clearing trees from the trail in the woods, having a devotional with a campfire, painting a deck, and, of course, swimming in the pond ☺ Praise God for opportunities like these to grow together in Synergy! More outdoor activities are being planned for our summer.

Upcoming Activities & Events:

Graduate Recognition Service	coming soon!
Synergy Leader's Meeting	August 19th
Synergy Kick-off	August 26th

Word of Life
Ages 3 - Grade 5



HILLSIDE KIDS

We wrapped up our 2019-2020 WOL year with a Parking Lot Pizza Party where we enjoyed food, fellowship, and trivia questions recapping our lessons for the year. Thank you to all of the families that were involved in our WOL year. We look forward to kicking off another year of WOL on August 26th!

Congratulations to Nathaniel Mason and Mikayla Hobbie for accomplishing the Gold Level award this year! This involved memorizing 21 verses, completing 12 service projects, finishing 3 book reports, and remaining faithful in their quiet times and attendance at WOL.

Junior Church
Ages 2 - Grade 2

Students age 2—Grade 2 are welcome to join us in the Youth Room following the singing portion of our Sunday Worship Service for an age-appropriate Bible lesson and application. We will be studying the stories of Joseph and Moses throughout the month of July.

Ministry Updates

Do you accept this mission?

FAMILY NIGHT

Wednesdays, July 15 & August 5

7:00pm

Mark your calendars! We are excited to offer 2 family nights this summer. The theme will be "Mission Possible" and will offer stations for families to participate in completing a mission. Families will also be challenged to accept a mission to complete throughout the week as a family. We encourage you to invite another family to attend with you. Keep an eye out for more information as we approach these dates.

Clothing Ministry

Although this year's clothing ministry that was scheduled for March 28th had to be postponed, we were able to provide clothes to 31 families from April to June. Families were able to schedule a time to come and look for clothes, one family at a time. We will continue to allow families the ability to come and sort through bins of clothes as we see a need. Please continue to pray that we would be able to use the clothes that we have to help families in our community and that we could make meaningful connections with these families.



Live Stream

We are excited to have provided our first Live Stream service with our updated equipment on Sunday, June 28th. Our goal with providing the Live Stream is to provide our church family with the opportunity to worship on a Sunday morning that they may not be able to attend our in-person service, as well as to reach out to others with the good news of the Gospel. The Live Stream can be accessed each week on our website, on YouTube, and through a link on our Facebook page.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible. By providing a Live Stream, there will be additional Tech Volunteers needed each Sunday. If you have an interest in learning more about our Tech Team, please reach out to Michael Bowlby.



Vacation Bible School - July 20-23 from 9:30-11:30am

VBS is right around the corner! We are excited to be able to provide VBS for our community amidst the unrest and uncertainty in our country. Here are some ways that you can be involved in making VBS a success:



- 1. Volunteer**—Please contact Jen Kline at 330-317-5086 a.s.a.p. if you are able to volunteer during VBS week. Although we will not need as many volunteers as in the past, we do still need volunteers to make VBS week happen.
- 2. VBS Decorations Work Day**—On Saturday, July 11, join a crew of workers at Manguns from 8-11am as they work on building the decorations. Please see Lisa Mangun with any questions.
- 3. Bring in Food**—We are excited to still provide a lunch to the kids that attend VBS as this has been a great opportunity to provide a physical need for families/children in our community. There is a sign-up on the Welcome Center with food items that will be needed for the sack lunches that will be sent home with each child.
- 4. Pray**—In order for this week to happen and for message of the Gospel to change lives, we need to be praying as a church family! Here are some specific requests that we can be praying for:
 - Pray for wisdom for those making plans and decisions, and for all details to be worked out in a short period of time.
 - Pray for the right children to be in attendance and that God would open their heart to the Gospel.
 - Pray for the health and safety of our staff and the children attending.
 - Pray for flexibility for all involved as we navigate the changes this year.
 - Pray for weather that would allow us to provide outdoor activities.

Church Calendar

July

- 11 VBS Decorations Work Day @ Manguns
- 21 Deacon's Meeting
- 15 Family Night
- 26 Small Groups (meet between 7/26-8/1)

August

- 5 Family Night
- 9 Small Groups (meet between 8/9-8/15)
- 19 Synergy & WOL Leader's Meeting
- 26 Wednesday Night Kick-off
Adult Bible Study, Synergy & WOL