

Hillside Happenings

September &
October 2020
Newsletter



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Changing Seasons

By Pastor Rick

It's hard to believe that it's already Fall. Fall is a favored season for many reasons: hayrides, cooler temperatures, football season, pumpkin spice everything! No matter your favorite season, I believe the beauty and uniqueness of each season is a good gift from God. I can't imagine if we were stuck in only one season forever! Seasonal changes are a blessing.

This season is unlike any other Fall we've faced before. It's an election year, but the political tension has a palpable edge to it. It's fall sports season, but many are cut short or even canceled. Many kids are in a new class at school and at church, some starting school or college for the first time, yet with masks and online classes! What a weird year!

Some Other Changes

A lot of people are talking about the "COVID Reset" – the fact that things are inevitably going to be different as a society post-COVID. In fact, some even refer to this virus as a "Black Swan Event." While I'm not sure what the future holds (only God does), I do know that the foreseeable future is much different than anything I would have planned in January.

Here at Hillside, the virus has affected a few things in particular. Our Jr. Church and Jr. Church Plus classes have merged into one class offered in the Youth Room to accommodate space. The same can be said of Adult Sunday School. Some of our people have to be cautious with their social interaction, changing their church habits. And while I'm thankful for the opportunity to allow occasional mask breaks, I'm eager for the mask mandate to be lifted. Yes, all these changes have happened, and I'm sure there will be more!

Some Things Change, Some Things Do Not

While much in our world today is "fluid," I can say with certainty that there are some solid absolutes, even in a COVID world.

First, God is still God. His Will ultimately will prevail. He is still building His Kingdom in the hearts of people today. You and I will meet people in Heaven who found Christ in the fear of COVID, because Jesus still saves!

Another staple is the heartbeat of Hillside: to see the Lost saved, and the Saved serving. We will continue to use the avenues available to us to reach our community for Christ. We still offer clothing to those in need, support missionaries at home and abroad, and host live services that are also live streamed online, all sending out the needed message of the Gospel. Our people have not faltered in their giving of time and resources to see God's work continue at Hillside. And, on a personal note, I'm proud of our teens for their level of service in our church.

Challenge in the Changes

So while it will always be true that things change, one thing that should not is our personal devotion to our Lord. We must be faithful in our spiritual disciplines. Prayer, Bible study, corporate worship, and generosity are all vital commitments for the individual believer.

We may miss out on a few good things due to a virus, but nothing can rob us of our Joy in the LORD. When the leaves change, use it as a reminder that our God does not!

Children Ministries

Sunday School



September starts a new year for our Sunday School classes! Each week, students engage together as a class with a lesson that helps them understand more about God's Word. Here is a quick snapshot of what our students are learning about during the Fall semester:

Class:
Ages 2-3
Ages 4-K
Grades 1st-3rd
Grades 4th-5th

Teacher:
Rosemary Peters
Lillie Kollert
Mary Lynn Frary
Bonnie Baughman

Theme:
God Cares for Us
God Gives Life
God Plans
God is Worth Believing

Junior Church

Students age 2—grade 3 are welcome to join us for an age-appropriate Bible lesson and application during Jr. Church. During the months of September & October, students will continue to learn about Moses and the Israelites as they continue on their journey through the wilderness.



Word of Life

August 26th kicked off a new year of WOL with the students of Hillside, as well as some other students from our community! We are starting out the year with a combined group of our Gopher Buddies (Age 3-K) and our Olympians (Grades 1-5). Throughout this year, we will be learning lessons about many individuals from the Bible and applying that to how those people point us to our need for Jesus. We encourage you to periodically stop down to the Fellowship Hall to see what we have been learning on the timeline displayed.

We will have a key verse each month that we will work to memorize together on Wednesday evenings. Each student should be able to take away 7-8 verses that they have memorized this year. We also plan to complete some service projects together as a group to help and encourage others in our community.

Each student that participates in this program receives a daily quiet time book that they may choose to complete on their own, as well as additional memory verses that they can learn throughout the year.



Adult Ministries

Wednesday Adult Bible Study and Prayer | 7:00pm

It is great to be back together in our mid-week service! Pastor Kevin has begun a series on “Living without Worry”. During uncertain times in our world, we need to be in prayer. What better way to be accountable in prayer than as a group of believers. We encourage you to join us on Wednesday evenings.

If you have a prayer request, please let Pastor Kevin know so that it can make it on our Wednesday evening prayer list.

Making Messengers

1-day Evangelism Training Conference

put on by

Word of Life Local Church Ministries

Date and Time: Saturday, Sept. 19 | 9:00am - 3:30pm

Conference Location: Hillside Baptist Church

Cost: \$15 by Sept. 13 / \$20 at the door

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/north-east-oh-leadership-training-tickets-113825954494>

Conference Speaker: Aaron Krause — Word of Life

Description:

There are many methods of giving the Gospel. But even more important than a method is the message. In this training, we will be discussing:

- The purpose of the Gospel
- What the Gospel actually entails
- How to tell the Gospel
- Key elements to discuss when sharing the Gospel
- Knowing when a decision needs to be made
- What to do after someone makes a decision

Contact: Steve Oswald at 330-590-0371 or soswald@wol.org

Church Calendar

September

- 1 Deacon's Meeting
- TBD Synergy Event
- 19 Evangelism Training Conference
- 20 Joe Keim (MAP Ministry) @ Hillside
- 27 Hillside Day @ Skyview Ranch

October

- 6 Deacon's Meeting
- TBD WOL Fall Festival

Hillside Day at Skyview Ranch

Please note, the information below is weather permitting.

On Sunday, Sept. 27, Hillside is invited to enjoy a day at Skyview Ranch in Millersburg. We will have an AM Worship Service at Hillside at 9 AM (for those that cannot make it to camp) and the same service at Skyview at 11 AM for any that want to spend the day at camp.

After the 11 AM service at Skyview, we will have a cook-out. Meat, buns, drink, and table service will be provided. Bring sides to share or bring your own picnic if you would rather not share food due to Covid.

Some camp activities will be available after lunch. Some activities may not be available based on staffing issues.

Please sign-up if you plan to attend and indicate your interest in possible activities.



Tentative Schedule

- 9:00am Service at Hillside (for those not attending at Skyview)
- 11:00am Service at Skyview Ranch
- 12:15pm Lunch
- 1:30pm Horse Trail—*sign-up needed*
- 2:00pm Pond Stuff (swim, fish, canoe) / Yard Games (Cornhole, Frisbee Golf, etc.) / Hike
- 3:30pm Rip Zip or Zipline—*sign-up needed*
- 5:00pm Leave

COVID-19 Update

The policy below has been put together to support the services of Hillside. Information that we have received from the Wayne County Health Department has been taken into consideration when developing this policy. Please note that this policy may be updated as needed (note that the policy below has been updated since the time that it was sent out on Remind). If you have any questions about this policy, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Kevin or Pastor Rick.

Hillside's COVID-19 Policy

Requirements:

- **Individuals should not enter the building if they have had a fever at or higher than 100.4 or any other major illness symptoms within the past 24 hours.** Hillside reserves the right to monitor temperatures and may take the temperature of minors as they enter a classroom with a contact free thermometer.
- **Individuals age 10 and older must wear a face covering coming, going, and as they move throughout the building. Mask breaks will be given as is appropriate. Those with health issues that prevent a face covering are exempt.** We will have some masks available in the case someone forgets to bring one.
- Good hygiene should always be practiced (washing hands, covering coughs/sneezes, etc.).
- Individuals that test positive for Covid that have attended a service at Hillside, should make one of our Pastors aware. Hillside will do its best to notify others who shared attendance with that individual if this were to occur.
- Individuals who contract the virus are asked to self-quarantine and may return to Hillside when cleared by their healthcare provider.

Recommendations:

- Appropriate distancing will be maintained as space allows.
- Those leading the service, including teachers, are excused from wearing a mask while leading a group. Leaders are encouraged to use wisdom in giving mask breaks when appropriate.
- Snacks should not be shared between children. Pre-packaged snacks are recommended.

*This policy is subject to change.
Revision Date: August 18, 2020*