

Hillside Happenings

March & April
2024
Newsletter



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Spaces and Places (and merch, oh my!)

By: Pastor Rick

With all of the current updates to our church, I like to be reminded why updates really do matter.

In Haggai 1, God brings a solemn charge against the people of Israel. As the remnant of people began to rebuild Jerusalem, the common thought was "now is not the time to rebuild the temple, it's not important" But God (sarcastically) asks then if *it is* the right time to live in nice houses and ignore the temple (Haggai 1:2-4). God then goes on to declare a command to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem, demonstrating that He cared about the physical structure in which His people worshipped Him.

But that was the Old Testament, where the glory of the temple was supposed to be a hint of the glory of God. Do physical spaces still matter today? We believe they do, and here are a few reasons why.

A Theology of Spaces

Reason 1: God is glorified through good stewardship. Stewardship, in the Christian sense, is both a recognition that everything we have is a gift from God and a response of gratefulness, generosity, and proper handling. Simply put, when God entrusts to us any physical thing, He intends for us to steward it well. The physical spaces in which you and I operate are also things that God expects us to steward. Upkeep and updates are both aspects of good stewardship.

Reason 2: our building demonstrates our view of God. Cathedrals were built so that as worshippers entered their attention would be drawn upward, bringing about a sense of smallness in such large spaces. The intent was to use the physical space to remind people of the grandness and greatness of God, and to keep the humility of that feeling as they then worshipped. Today, there is still a sense of purpose behind the choices of architecture and décor. We want to communicate our love for God by the way we use our building. We don't update for the sole purpose of looking "professional" but so that people recognize the orderliness of our God while also recognizing our love for Him.

A Philosophy of Third Places

Reason 3: our building communicates how we feel about people. In sociology, some people talk about a "third place," the unique social location that is separate from the two usual locations of home and work/school. Secularly, these are parks, diners, libraries, etc. But for the Christian, we call it our church. We want our building to be an inviting place of community. The use of our space should aid in the fellowship and growth of our church people, and updates help us accomplish that purpose.

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Reason 4: our building expresses our identity. Consider another historic architectural feature that helped to distinguish a church building among the skyline: the steeple. Again, the physical place communicated to even non-churched people that the identity of the building was Christian. Our updates, similarly, express who we are to anyone visiting or attending. While we'd love to be known as the church that learns together and lives transformed, our message is lost if we are instead known as the church whose building fell apart.

Speaking of expressing our identity...Hillside is getting some Merch! The opportunity to purchase shirts, hats, bags, etc. with Hillside's logo is now available (see below)! These are great ways to signify you belong to the Hillside family.

A Word of Warning

As with anything, there are extremes to be avoided. If we neglect any updates and upkeep, our building would fall into disrepair, the ministry would suffer, and it's even possible that God's reputation would suffer as a result. However, if we were to only obsess over our building, we would lose sight of the fact that **we** are the church, and 19 W. Ohio is just a building. In this extreme, the ministry would also suffer, as souls are neglected for structures.

God calls the church a "pillar and buttress of the truth." May our physical spaces reflect the spiritual attitude we carry: whether we eat, or drink, (or update!), we do all to the glory of God!



Hillside Merch/App

HILLSIDE MERCH

ONLINE
MERCH STORE



We are excited to provide you with a way to purchase Hillside Merch! Check out updated shirts, hats, bags, and more that you can purchase to represent Hillside. They can also take custom orders if you would like something that is not currently on the site.



HILLSIDE APP



Do you have the Hillside App saved on your device? Access this site for a list of prayer requests, up-to-date calendar, weekly bulletins, and more!

HILLSIDE APP



See Seka with questions about Merch or the App!

2024 Church Calendar

March 2024

- 3/3 VBS Volunteer Sign-Up/Recruiting Begins
- 3/3 GO Team Chicken BBQ Ticket Sales Begin
- 3/3 Carry-In
- 3/3 FPU Session #3
- 3/5 Deacon's Meeting
- 3/9 March Hoopla
- 3/10 FPU Session #4 & Small Groups
- 3/16 Couples Dinner
- 3/17 GO Team Meeting (\$200 deposit due)
- 3/17 Worship Team Practice
- 3/17 FPU Session #5
- 3/20 Deadline for purchasing Chicken BBQ Tickets
- 3/24 Small Groups
- **3/31 Resurrection Sunday**
7:30am Sunrise Service
8:15am Breakfast
9:15am Sunday School
10:00am Worship Service

April 2024

- 4/2 Deacon's Meeting
- 4/3 Congregational Business Meeting
- 4/5 GO Team Chicken BBQ Dinner Fundraiser
- 4/7 Jared & Jessica Raines Missions Presentation (SS)
- 4/7 VBS Volunteer Meeting
- 4/7 FPU Session #6
- 4/14 FPU Session #7 & Small Groups
- 4/21 FPU Session #8
- 4/21 Worship Team Practice
- 4/25-27 Skyview Men's Retreat
- 4/28 FPU Session #9 & Small Groups

May 2024

- 5/5 YES Service (during AM Service)
- 5/5 Carry-In
- 5/5 Graduate Recognition (Afternoon Service)
- 5/7 Deacon's Meeting
- 5/12 Mother's Day
- 5/19 GO Team Boot Camp (\$200 deposit due)
- 5/19 Worship Team Practice
- 5/29 Wednesday Evening Program Wrap Up

June 2024

- 6/2 Carry-In
- 6/4 Deacon's Meeting
- 6/5 No Mid-Week Services

- **6/10-14 Vacation Bible School**
- 6/12 No Mid-Week Services
- 6/14 VBS Closing Program
- 6/16 Father's Day
- 6/30 GO Team Final Payment Due

July 2024

- 7/3 Congregational Business Meeting
- **7/6-13 GO Team Jamaica**
- 7/7 Carry-In
- 7/21 Encouragement Sunday
- 7/24 Serve the City + Outreach Prep Night
- TBD: Sleepwalker Outreach
- 7/31 No Mid-Week Services

August 2024

- 8/3 Clothing Giveaway
- 8/4 Carry-In
- 8/4 GO Team Report Out (Afternoon Service)
- 8/6 Deacon's Meeting
- 8/21 No Mid-Week Services
- 8/28 WOL/Synergy Kickoff

September 2024

- 9/1 Carry-In
- 9/3 Deacon's Meeting
- 9/9 Synergy Fair Sausage Fundraiser

October 2024

- 10/1 Deacon's Meeting
- 10/2 Congregational Business Meeting
- 10/6 Carry-In
- TBD: Fall Fellowship (possibly instead of Carry-In)

November 2024

- 11/3 Carry-In
- 11/5 Deacon's Meeting
- **11/27 Thanksgiving Eve Service**

December 2024

- 12/3 Deacon's Meeting
- 12/8 Live Nativity
- 12/11 Business Meeting (2025 Nominations)
- 12/18 Caroling & Business Cookies Due
- **12/22 Christmas Sunday**
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Service, 7:00pm
- 12/25 & 1/1 No Mid-Week Services



Easter at Hillside

RESURRECTION SUNDAY



We are looking forward to a great day together as we celebrate Resurrection Sunday on March 31st! Plan now to join us for the whole morning.

7:30am Sunrise Service
8:15am Sunrise Breakfast
9:15am Sunday School
10:00am Worship Service

Resurrection Sunday MEMORIAL FLOWERS



If you would like to purchase MEMORIAL FLOWERS, there is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center. Cost will be \$10/flower. Checks can be written to Hillside Baptist Church and can be placed in the offering clearly marked as "Memorial Flowers".

Deadline to sign-up is March 24th.

Flowers can be taken home after service on Resurrection Sunday, March 31.

We have invite cards available at the Welcome Center for you to grab and pass out to your neighbors, co-workers, friends, and family.

Who will you invite to join you at Hillside this Easter?

March 31
RESURRECTION SUNDAY
at Hillside

7:30am Sunrise Service
8:15am Sunrise Breakfast
9:15am Sunday School
10:00am Worship Service

Miscellaneous Events

March Hoopla

Saturday, March 9



We are taking a group of 35+ students, (grades K-5) to a Word of Life sponsored event which includes a trampoline park, pizza party, group games at a rec center, and the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus!

Please be praying for the hearts of the kids that will be attending this event, safety throughout the day, and for Steve and Sue Oswald's team that is running the event!



Skyview Men's Retreat

April 25-27

Men from Hillside are encouraged to join other men for a weekend at The Ranch! We will enjoy great fellowship, delicious food, and compelling chapel sessions filled with worship and a deep dive into God's Word!

Visit Skyview's website for more information and to register, and let Scott Mason know if you plan to attend!

MORE INFO HERE



Couples Dinner

SATURDAY
MARCH 16
6:00PM
AT HILLSIDE

COME AND ENJOY A DELICIOUS MEAL, SIMPLE ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE THE UNIQUENESS OF YOUR MARRIAGE, AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS!

\$40/COUPLE

MENU:

GARLIC ROASTED CHICKEN BREAST
ROAST BEEF MEDALLION
RIGATONI PASTA W/ RED SAUCE
ITALIAN ROASTED POTATOES
GLAZED CARROTS
TOSSED SALAD
ROLLS
DESSERT
DRINK

SIGN-UP AT THE WELCOME CENTER BY
SUNDAY, MARCH 10!

College Care Packages

We have several college students away from home who are headed into their last few months of this school year. In the weeks to come, you will see ways that you can donate items to be sent in care packages to these students.

Be on the lookout for
more information!



Student Ministries

Synergy Snapshot:

Wednesday Teaching Series:

March – HEART ABLAZE: Made Alive to Worship

A four-lesson topical series on worship. Students will learn to see God for Who He is and learn to exalt Him. They will learn to view themselves in light of God's character and humbly kneel before Him. They will be challenged to make worship a daily practice as they spend time with God. Ultimately, they will learn to live for God's glory as an act of worship.



April – SUPERNATURAL: Angels are more than a Myth

This four-lesson series covers doctrinal truth about angels and demons. Students will learn basic biblical facts about angels and will be warned about the power of Satan and his demons so they can be prepared for the attack of the devil.

GO Team 2024: Jamaica

This year's GO Team (Global Outreach) will be traveling to Montego Bay, Jamaica from July 6-13! This team consists of 13 teens and 4 adults. During our time there, we will visit an orphanage, lead a VBS in a church plant (while also training locals on how to run a VBS), take part in other local outreach projects, as well as participate in individual and team devotions.

Chicken BBQ Fundraiser

One way we are raising support for this trip is through a **BBQ Chicken Fundraiser meal!** Tickets are on sale NOW and can be purchased until March 20. All meals must be picked up on Friday, April 5 between 3:30-6:30pm (Carry-Out only). Tickets can be purchased after Sunday Services or prior to Wednesday Evening Services at the designated table in the foyer.

**Thank you for supporting
our missions trip to Jamaica!**

BBQ Chicken Fundraiser

FRI, APRIL 5

**PICK-UP BETWEEN
3:30-6:30PM**

**HILLSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
19 W. OHIO RITTMAN**

**PRESALE TICKETS
\$15/MEAL**

Dinners include:

- 1/4 BBQ Chicken
- Baked Potato
- Green Beans
- Dinner Roll
- Apple Sauce
- Cookie

Children's Ministries



We encourage our families with young Children to continue to take advantage of the Children's Ministries that take place each week here at Hillside:

Sunday School: Sundays at 9:00a

Classes for all Ages

Jr Church: Sundays at 10a

30 Months—PreK

Kids' Church: Sundays at 10a

K-4th Grade

Word of Life: Wednesdays at 7p

Gopher Buddies (Age 2-K) | Olympians (1st-5th Grade)

If you are interested in finding out more about any of these ministries or if you are interested in joining any of these ministry teams, please contact Pastor Rick.

Vacation Bible School

June 10-14, 2024 | 9a-12p

Vacation Bible School at Hillside is always a fun-packed week of serving Christ, sharing Christ, and loving Christ. This year, kids will be challenged as they discover that God's truth never changes, everyone needs Jesus, and learn to speak the truth in love. Adventure awaits each day as kids explore tide pools, spot orcas, fly kites, and watch the mighty waves crash up against the immovable Breaker Rock!



We are starting to line up our VBS Volunteers for this year! **If you are willing to help in some way, please sign-up at the Welcome Center during the month of March** and mark your calendars for the VBS Volunteer Meeting on April 7th following Worship Service.

Also, be on the lookout for a VBS Decorations Workday that will be take place in April!

If you have any questions at all about VBS, please contact our VBS Director, Jen Kline. She would love to tell you more about VBS at Hillside!