

# Hillside Happenings

September &  
October 2024  
Newsletter



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## PK's Points

Sometimes the Bible surprises us. Sometimes we are surprised by what it says and then there are other times that we are surprised by what it does not say. There are social media postings that ask for you to share phrases or concepts that people think are in the Bible but actually are not – such as “the Bible says that God helps those who help themselves”, or that “the Bible says that when God closes one door, He opens another.” Nice, pithy sayings, but not taken straight from the Bible.

A number of weeks ago, in our study of the book of 1 Timothy on Wednesday evenings, we spent some time considering the reality that as God inspired Paul to write various New Testament books and address slaves and slave-owners various times throughout a number of these books, that the Bible, surprisingly, did not come right out and openly condemn the practice of slavery. The absence of a clear statement may surprise us, but that doesn't mean that the Bible condoned slavery one bit. In fact, Biblical principle after principle after principle after principle (do you get the point?) repeatedly would teach of the equality of all people, condemn the mistreatment of people, raise the bar on the concept of freedom and brotherhood, and champion love, justice, mercy, and honor to all. We realize that slavery in Roman culture was much different than the blight of early American culture. But it was slavery nonetheless, and the Bible does not address it head-on. We might wonder as to why that is until we begin to see what the Bible does focus on. For chapter after chapter of the New Testament stays focused on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For Christ did not come for social reform (the abolishment of slavery), but He came for spiritual renewal (salvation of mankind). And despite all of the social issues of the 1<sup>st</sup> century in the Romans Empire, God's Word remains laser-focused on the Gospel.

Guess what we, as the Church, should focus on? The Gospel.

This does not absolve us of getting involved with social issues but it actually should motivate us to be courageous in sharing our views on matters. That, because of the Gospel, we know God and are able to know His Word as it gives us authoritative principles and commands to back our positions and views. For example, we understand that when it comes to the social issue of abortion, that we know that abortion is not just a political battle, it is a spiritual one. For God's Word teaches that life begins at conception and so putting an end to an unborn through abortion is the wrongful taking of one's life.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

Social issues come about quickly. And it seems as if there are more and more stepping up to the plate all the time. And even though we are blessed to live in a great nation, we must admit that it is far from perfect. Imperfect people who have developed good, at first, but imperfect systems that now seem to be showing their fault lines. The systems that are showing their fault lines are now running into opposition who are capitalizing (no pun intended) on the errors of an imperfect system, protesting and advocating for a pendulum swing of a completely new system (Did someone say socialism?).

And so we run to the scriptures, seeking an answer as to how humankind is to form their economy, government and social structure. We find, maybe to one's surprise, what the Bible does not say, as it does not spell out any governing structures. However, I believe there are a vast number of principles found throughout God's Word that would lend itself towards capitalism. I believe that with capitalism comes greater freedom and responsibility and stewardship opportunities, and many other things that God's Word teaches, promotes, and values. However, if some-day, the pendulum would ever swing, let's remember that our primary focus must always be the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The problem is though, that with the governmental need for control in socialistic countries, what we have seen is that because God's Word advocates for personal freedom and equality, etc..., that socialist governments will eventually put an end to religious freedom.

However, it has been said that when there is persecution, the church grows. Christ said that even the "gates of Hades" would not prevail over His Church. Therefore, we are struck with the understanding that the focus of our lives and church should be the Good News of salvation and freedom of sin through Jesus Christ. And that should remain the focus regardless of the political climate, social structure, or economic position we find ourselves in. May this be true of us, individually, and collectively, as Hillside, as we continue *learning together* in order to be found *living transformed*.

We have an exciting Fall to the end of the year planned with our Fall Fellowship (October) and Carry-In meals (September, November & December), as well as our normal service times to interact, fellowship and worship together. We'll start September off with a Baptism Service and a few headed to Missionary Acres. A few weeks ago, in our AM message, there was a reference to some special prayer services that we would like to see take place on Sept. 29, Oct. 27, and Nov. 10. These services will be committed to praying for Hillside, for God to continue to use Hillside for His purpose, for Him to show us how to reach people in a greater/deeper way, and for Him to expand our ministry as He sees fit. The start time for these services will be either 4:30 or 6:00 PM on these days and should conclude within an hour. Our Fall Fellowship is being planned for Oct. 6. November will bring a Ladies' Retreat (Nov. 1-2) and December will be a full month of celebrating Christ's birth.



# 2024 Church Calendar

## September 2024

- 9/1 Promotion Sunday, Carry-In, Afternoon Baptism Service
- 9/1 Missionary Acres Work Team Meeting
- 9/3 Deacon's Meeting
- 9/8 Synergy Sausage Fundraiser Meeting
- 9/9 Synergy Sausage Fundraiser @ Fair
- 9/15 Worship Team Practice
- 9/21-9/28 Missionary Acres Work Team Trip
- **9/29 Special Prayer Service**
- 9/29 Synergy Parents' Night

## October 2024

- 10/1 Deacon's Meeting
- 10/2 Congregational Business Meeting
- 10/6 Fall Harvest Fellowship (*no Carry-In Lunch*)
- 10/20 Worship Team Practice
- **10/27 Special Prayer Service**



## November 2024

- 11/1-11/2 Ladies Retreat
- 11/3 Carry-In
- 11/5 Deacon's Meeting
- **11/10 Special Prayer Service**
- 11/17 Worship Team Practice
- **11/27 Thanksgiving Eve Service**

## December 2024

- 12/3 Deacon's Meeting
- 12/6 REVERB All-Nighter
- **12/8 Live Nativity**
- 12/11 Business Meeting (2025 Nominations)
- 12/18 Christmas Caroling
- 12/18 Business Christmas Cookies Due
- **12/22 Christmas Sunday**
  - 9:00am Children's Christmas Program
  - 10:00am AM Worship Service
  - 6:00pm Christmas Concert of Praise
- **12/24 Christmas Eve Service - 7:00pm**
- 12/25 & 1/1 No Mid-Week Services

*\*Dates and Events are subject to change.  
See up-to-date calendar on our website and app.*

## Praying Together

**Wednesday Evenings @ 7:00pm**

**Sundays: Sept. 29, Oct. 27, Nov. 10**

In our current Sunday Sermon series of Daniel, we have been challenged to spend time praying together. We encourage all to make **Wednesday Evenings at 7:00** a priority as one opportunity for us to pray together. We will also be having 3 **Special Prayer Services** in

the weeks to come. These services will begin at either 4:30pm or 6:00pm and should conclude within the hour. We encourage you to mark your calendars and plan to attend these services as we seek the Lord's direction for our personal lives and for Hillside. Be on the lookout for more information in the bulletin soon.

ACCESS PK'S  
AUGUST 18TH  
SERMON HERE



# Upcoming Events

## **Synergy Fundraiser**

**Monday, Sept. 9 @ Wayne County Fair**

Our teens will be serving food at Bob's Sausage Stand (large Italian sausage stand behind grandstands, beside Lerch's) again this year on the Monday of the Wayne County Fair. A large portion of the days proceeds and all tips from the day will go toward future Synergy events and trips.

**Please plan to stop by & support our teens on Monday, Sept. 9!**

## **OARBC Senior Luncheon at Skyview | Sept. 24**

Join other OARBC Seniors on Tuesday, September 24 at Skyview Ranch in Millersburg. Arrive close to 11:00 am, get coffee/tea and see the camp. A delicious lunch will be served in the Dining Hall at noon or shortly after followed by a concert by the former (old) "Collegians" men's quartet from BBC of PA (now Clarks Summit University). Cost is \$15/person.

Sign-up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, Sept. 8 if you plan to attend.

## **ALL-CHURCH FALL HARVEST FELLOWSHIP**

**SUNDAY, OCT. 6TH**

**@ Roy & Lisa Mangun's House**

*13693 Friendsville Road, Burbank*

**5:00-8:30pm (eat @ 5:30)**

*Meat, buns, and drinks provided*

*Bring sides and desserts to share*

**FOOD, FALL ACTIVITIES,  
FELLOWSHIP, & MORE**

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

**LADIES RETREAT**

**November 1-2**

It's that time of year again! This evening away is always a good time to recharge before the busy holiday season.

Good food, encouragement and lots of laughs are always on the agenda!

We hope that you plan to join us this year.

**Watch for more  
details coming  
soon!**



# Children's Ministries



## Sunday School

September starts a new year for our Sunday School classes! Here is a snapshot of what our students are learning 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

**Lessons:**

Jesus Cares for Us

God Gives Life

God Plans

God is Worth Believing

## Junior Church / Kids' Church

**Jr. Church** (*Age 2 1/2 - PreK*) is available starting at 9:50am and provides a Biblical lesson and an activity, while also giving time to play with friends!

**Kids' Church** (*K - 4th Grade*) is dismissed during service (typically after the 3rd congregational song). This class will continue to learn from the miracles and teachings of Jesus and from the early church in their study of the New Testament.



## Word of Life

*Wednesdays @ 7 pm*

August 28th kicked off a new year of WOL! We are excited to provide age-appropriate classes for WOL again this year! **Gopher Buddies** (*Age 3 - K*) and **Olympians** (*1st-5th Grade*) have an exciting year ahead where children will learn lessons about many individuals from the Bible and will see how those people point us to our need for Jesus. Singing, Games, and Scripture Memory are also a part of each week! It's never to late to join; we hope to see you there! **If you have questions about what your child can do to work toward an Olympian medal, see Rebecca Bowlby!**

## Children's Christmas Program

As summer schedules wind down and the school year begins, our thoughts have shifted to the months ahead and our Children's Christmas Program! All children 4 years old - 6th grade are welcome to join us. Our rehearsals take place, starting in the Fall, at various times throughout our Sunday mornings services (typically the end of Sunday School and beginning of Worship Service) with a few Saturday morning rehearsals in December. Be on the lookout for more info and a full rehearsal schedule in the bulletin and your church mailbox soon.

**See Rebekah Thompson with any questions about the Christmas Program!**



# Student Ministries

## Synergy Snapshot:

### Wednesdays Teaching Series:

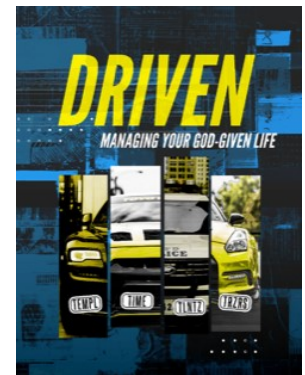


#### September Series: Rescue

- Saved from Death to Life
- Saved from Wrath to Love
- Saved from Debt to Freedom
- Saved from Guilt to Restful Joy

#### October Series: Driven

- Honoring God with our Bodies
- Honoring God with our Time Management
- Honoring God with our Skills and Abilities
- Honoring God with our Money and Mindset



### Sunday School Teaching Series:



#### High School –

*Now:* How to Read and Get the Bible

*Next:* BAPTIST Distinctives: What do Baptists believe?

#### Middle School –

“Life is Hard” - Glorifying God through trials and adversities

### Events:

Sept. 8 Sausage Stand Fundraiser Meeting (*brief meeting following service*)

Sept. 9 Sausage Stand Fundraiser @ Wayne County Fair

Sept. 29 Synergy Parent’s Night (*watch for more info soon*)

TBD Fall Event

Dec. 6 REVERB All-Nighter

# Staying Connected

Whether you have been at Hillside since the beginning, you have joined us along the way, or if you're newer to Hillside, we want to remind everyone of the different avenues that we have available to use technology to keep us "in the know" of what's happening at Hillside!

## PRAYER CHAIN TEXTS

We use **REMIND** to communicate urgent prayer requests and important reminders. Once you are part of the "HBC Prayer Chain" Group, you can choose for notifications to be sent via text or through the Remind App.



**\*How to join?** Text @hbcpray to 81010

## SOCIAL MEDIA: FACEBOOK



We use **FACEBOOK** as our Social Media platform.

- We have a *Public* Church Page that anyone can follow to have access to our Service Live Streams and to know about upcoming events like VBS, Clothing Drive, Live Nativity, etc.  
**\*How to join?** Search "Hillside Baptist Church" on Facebook to **Like** and **Follow** our page.
- We also have a *Private* Church Page that church attenders and members can join to see additional event details and reminders, lost and found posts, volunteer and donation opportunities, etc.  
**\*How to join?** Send a friend request to "Seka Masters" and she can add you to the group.

## HILLSIDE APP

Our **HILLSIDE APP** contains links to many other helpful online tools! On our app, you can:



1. Submit Prayer Requests
2. View Prayer Requests
3. View our service & event Calendar
4. Watch our worship service Live Streams
5. View our weekly Bulletin
6. View our Newsletters
7. Give Offering online
8. Listen to our worship song Playlist
9. View our Website
10. Purchase Hillside Merch

**\*How to join?** Scan the QR code and save to your phone's home page.



# Online Contact Directory

WE ARE GOING TO USE THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER TO GET OUR ONLINE CONTACT DIRECTORY UPDATED, BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN!

The Hillside App provides us with a great way to easily access all things Hillside, including a quick way to find individual's contact information.

## Here is some information about the Online Contact Directory:

- Your contact information will NOT be included unless you choose to make it available.
- Only individuals who have created a SIGN-IN account will be able to see the information in the directory. We review each new account created to make sure that only Hillside attenders/members receive access to your contact information.

## Here is what we need from you in the weeks to come:

### **ACCESS THE APP & CREATE AN ACCOUNT**

Access the app by scanning the QR Code or by visiting our site on a computer or phone at <https://hbcrittman.churchtrac.com/>. Select "Sign-In" and create an account using your email address. Once this is complete, we will review your account and provide you with access to our online directory.

HILLSIDE APP



### **CONFIRM YOUR CONTACT INFO AND PROVIDE US WITH A PICTURE**

Next week, you should receive a paper in your church mailbox listing the contact information that we have on file for you. You will need to:

1. Confirm your contact information.
2. Let us know what information we can share on the Online Directory.
3. Provide us with a picture. We plan to have someone available at the church on Sundays, September 15 & 22 to take pictures if you would prefer to do that instead of providing us with one you already have.

Thank you for your help to get this helpful tool up and running! You can reach out to Seka at [hillsidebaptistoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hillsidebaptistoffice@gmail.com) with any questions.