

CORNERSTONE

Monthly Newsletter

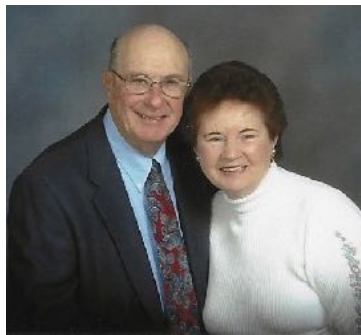


What's up with purple paraments and purple candles? Isn't everything supposed to be red and green in December?

Christians celebrate a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas as well as the return of Jesus at the second coming. Purple is the color of royalty and sovereignty of Christ.

So why is there a pink (rose) candle in the wreath? Each Sunday has significance: Hope, Love, Joy & Peace. We light the pink candle on the Sunday of Joy which is the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

Welcome, New Member: John Wright



I was born and raised on a farm in Southern Ohio where I was a member of the South Salem Presbyterian Church. I joined the Navy in 1959 and served 24 years on several ships and duty stations. I met my wife, Margo in 1964 in Scotland who was born and raised on a small island of Eriskay in the

Outer Hebrides, Scotland where she was a member of St. Michael Catholic Church. Then the ship went back to Charleston, SC. Later, I got transferred back to Scotland on a floating dry dock in 1965 and made Chief Petty Officer. We got married in 1968 at the Church of Scotland at Sandbank, Scotland which is along the shore of Holy Loch where the submarine base was. I got transferred to Service School Command electrical school where I was an instructor for senior electricians. After that I was transferred to Memphis to attend State Technical Institute and earned an associate degree in instrumentation engineering. From Memphis we returned to Scotland on the USS Holland AS-32 for five years where I served as engineering admin assistant and command master chief. In 1980 we transferred to Naval Air Technical Training Center, Memphis. I transferred my Presbyterian membership from Ohio to Bartlett Presbyterian Church and am now a member of Highland Heights Presbyterian Church. Margo is a member of Nativity Catholic Church in Bartlett. I retired here in 1983. After I retired I was in the life and health insurance business. We have two sons who are deceased, two grandchildren and five great grandchild who are in Arizona and New Mexico.

Church Leadership

Staff

Tim Foster **Senior Pastor**
 Jason Gatlin **Youth Director**
 Patrick Holmes **Young Adult Director & Contemporary Music Leader**
 Marie Schroeder
Children's Ministry Director
 Matthew Wade
Recreation Ministry Director
 Mary Smith
Financial Administrator
 Rosie Blatt
Administrative Assistant
 Chiquita Paulson **Music Director**
 Lauren Fiveash
Ensemble Director & Pianist
 Cindy Phillips **Organist**
 Russell Mann **Guitarist**
 Jason Gatlin **Sound Technician**
 Chrissy Thornton
Parents' Day Out Director

Elders

Bob Donan - **Clerk**

Class of 2018

Tom Bright
 Lin Fryman
 Steve Deaux

Class of 2019

Josh Bond
 Clint Bowden
 Kendra Bowers
 Jason Gatlin
 Janis McCarty

Class of 2020

Richard Armour - **Treasurer**
 Lesa Hart
 Rob McCleary

Deacons

Class of 2018

Steve Allen
 Kim Batson
 Joy Bowden
 Linda Melear

Class of 2019

Nikki Bond - **Moderator**
 Lori Brown
 Traci Gatlin

Class of 2020

Barb James
 Don Rush
 Linda Rush
 David Thornton

Pastor's Remarks



Lunch on Thanksgiving at my house was a day filled with food, family and gratitude. One of our traditions is for every family member to share something he or she is thankful for before we pray and eat. **“Give thanks to the Lord and praise His name” (Psalm 100:4).** One of my Millennial cousins was particularly poignant. He said he was thankful that our family continues the tradition of gathering together for a meal and fellowship at Thanksgiving and Christmas, because a lot of his friends' families don't anymore.



One of Highland Heights' family traditions during the Christmas holidays is the Christmas Eve service. It's my favorite service of the entire year. We sing the old carols, listen to the Bible's telling of the birth of Jesus, take communion, and then light candles as “O, Holy Night” is sung. It's a classic, simple way to celebrate our Savior's birth. Christians have been celebrating the birth of the Christ Child in this way for centuries. If it ain't broke, don't fix it, right?

Who are you going to invite to the Christmas Eve service? It may be a relative or a neighbor or a co-worker. Don't chicken out, don't waste the chance during the time of the year when people are most likely to accept the invitation to come to Church. Christ is in the air, so to speak, this time of year. The Holy Spirit works through all of the decorations and music and Christmas greetings to draw people to Himself. Who are you going to invite to the Christmas Eve service?

Remember that I love you, and please continue to be faithful in worship and in giving.

Your Pastor and Friend,

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 ❤️ Charlie & Janette Thornton
2 1st Sunday in Advent The Lord's Supper 12:15 Pack cookies for GTMO 🍰 Bob Fleming	3 9:00 Exercise Class 🍰 Alina Gatlin 🍰 Debra Wright ❤️ John & Rosie Blatt	4	5 5:30 Supper - Spaghetti, Salad, Hot Dogs, Desserts 6:30 Activities 7:30 Choir/Open Gym	6	7 🍰 Deb Wade	8 6:00 Sunday School Class Christmas Party in gym 🍰 Andrew Smith
9 2nd Sunday in Advent 12:30 Deacons' Meeting 6:00 Children's Program 🍰 Bud Goodwin 🍰 Newt Hewes Last Day to Order Poinsettias	10 9:00 Exercise Class ❤️ Wayne & Debbie Johnston	11 11:00 TOPS 🍰 George Krug	12 5:30 Supper - Fried Chicken, Corn on the Cob, Cole Slaw, Biscuits, Hot Dogs, Desserts 6:30 Activities 7:30 Choir/Open Gym	13 11:30 Sarah & Hope Circles 6:30 Men's Supper 🍰 Evan Bright	14 ❤️ Steve & Betty Allen	15
16 3rd Sunday in Advent	17 9:00 Exercise Class 🍰 Ann Puckett	18 6:30 Forever Young 7:00 Marine Corps League 🍰 Pat Edwards	19	20	21 🍰 Rose Callies 🍰 Jake Brockwell	22
23 4th Sunday in Advent	24 Christmas Eve 6:00 Candlelight/Communion Service 	25 Christmas 🍰 Baby Jesus	26	27 6:30 Elders' meeting	28 🍰 Paul Hart	29 🍰 Angela Buckley
30 ❤️ Cason & Heather Griffin	31 New Year's Eve ❤️ David & Connie Thornton			POINSETTIA TIME! Order envelopes are in the pews! The plants are still \$8 each. We will have them in the Sanctuary for the services on Sunday the 16th & 23rd and also on Christmas Eve night. Then please take them home or maybe to a shut-in.		

Office Closed

Candlelight/ Communion Christmas Eve Service



Keeping Christ in Christmas includes Worship Services. Bring the whole family and keep the birth of Jesus as the focal point of Christmas. The service begins at 6:00.



Veterans' Day actually fell on a Sunday this year. HHPC loves our Vets. This picture was taken after the 11:00 service. We sent out a message to say that uniforms were appropriate. Four people wore their uniforms. Tim said that some of our Vets complained that their uniforms were too big for them and that's why they didn't wear them.



LIFE CHOICES OF MEMPHIS




Life Choices offers women help at a time when they aren't sure what to do. HHPC has been helping to support Life Choices through their baby bottle fundraiser for several years. The trees are back! They are filled with empty bottles. We ask you to take one (or more) home and fill it with your change. Bring it back and fill up the trees. *Last year, the Auto Chlor technician took one and brought it back filled.*

The last day to bring filled bottles is January 6th.



Highland Heights Presbyterian PDO/ Pre-K

Happy Thanksgiving from our young students in PDO. The teachers have been busy teaching them about being grateful for God's many blessings. Do you have a list of things for which you are grateful?



SEP 4-13, 2019
10 DAYS • 16 MEALS

HHPC | HIGHLAND HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Holy Land Pilgrimage

A Spiritual Journey through God's Promised Land

Israel is a world-class destination with outstanding archaeological, religious and cultural attractions. From Jerusalem, with a history dating back 3,000 years, to the lush green mountains and valleys of Galilee, to the lowest point on earth at the Dead Sea, you will be fascinated by this Holy Land journey. Visiting the Church of St. Peter, the Mount of Olives, the Room of the Last Supper and many more spiritual sites, this tour is sure to awaken your Faith. Join us as we experience the holiest sites in all of Israel.

You can read the entire itinerary and reserve at <https://www.countrytraveldiscoveries.com/HHPC>

Pray for Me Campaign

Highland Heights Pray for Me Prayer Champions have been actively engaged in daily praying for the youth of our church this fall. They are using the **SeeSavorShare (S3) Discipleship Process** of 'looking for God in all of life'. This is the foundation of the Pray for Me Prayer Guide.

- **See** is for being intentional in asking God to give us spiritual sight to see His greatness all around us – in Scripture, creation and life.
- **Savor** is the heart's response to what we are seeing of God. It helps to move us closer to knowing God and what He cares about.
- **Share** is the natural overflow of seeing and savoring God's greatness. When we see something incredible we want to tell others and by sharing we see what has a hold on our hearts.

If interested in learning more about this and joining with others at HHPC by praying for the next generation throughout the school year, contact Barb James at 901.356.5743 or barbjames51@gmail.com.

YOUTH



JASON GATLIN
YOUTH DIRECTOR
901.337.4125
gatlinj007@gmail.com

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Lesson	3	4	5 Lesson & Activity	6	7	8
9 Lesson	10	11	12 Lesson & Activity	13	14 Youth Christmas Party	15
16 Lesson	17	18	19 Lesson & Activity	20	21	22
23 Lesson Christmas Traditions	24	25	26 Movie Night TBD	27	28	29
30 Lesson	31 New Year's Lock in					

Youth News

As it seems we have barreled past fall right into winter, we are talking **Christmas** and **New Year's** already.

Dec 14th will be the annual youth Christmas party. We will have dirty Santa, gift ball, food and games.

Dec 26th (if anyone is in town) will be movie night. Movie is TBD.

Dec 31st we will have a lock in at the church. I will plan out games and various activities to ring in the new year. Youth room will become the blacklight music room and the gym will be cleared out for sports, table tennis will be downstairs. There will be food and snacks for the night.

A COLLIERVILLE CHRISTMAS
Tuesday, December 11
Silver Caboose Restaurant, Lunch, 11 am
132 E. Mulberry St.

“Away in 100 Mangers”
Bible Museum on the Square, 12:30 pm
140 E. Mulberry St.
Van Departs HHPC: 10:30

First we'll eat at The Silver Caboose, choosing from 7 or 8 appetizers, 5 daily featured entrées, 15-20 sides (including turnip greens and pot likker!), 20 sandwiches, 10 salads, assorted desserts, etc.

Afterwards, we'll visit the Bible Museum on the Square to see a private collection of more than 100 nativity scenes from 45+ countries. Don and I really enjoyed this



exhibition last December. The Nativity event is familiar to populations the world over, and these works reflect local culture through native costume, dwellings, selections of local



animals and gifts. There are wild and exotic animals in an African nativity, a buffalo and little boy with a Mohawk in the Apache



nativity, and a lot of green in the Irish one. From quite primitive folk craft to pounded silver, elaborate Russian nesting dolls and stunning smooth stone carvings, many of these nativity scenes are true works of art.

December is a very busy month, but this will allow you to

set time aside to ponder the Birth. And how about gifting a friend with an invitation to join us?

The museum is handicapped accessible, and the entire collection is contained in two rooms.

RSVP and give your \$4 entrance fee to Linda Rush by Sunday, December



9 (Irrush@aol.com or 901.734.1100). Please indicate if you want to ride the van, which leaves HHPC at 10: 30.

Elders' Notes - 10.25.18

- 1) Mary and Newt Hewes **joined the Church** by Reaffirmation of Faith on September 30th.
- 2) Gratitude was expressed to **Bikram Ranapheli** for his faithful service as our guitarist. Bikram did not renew his work visa, so he can no longer be employed by the Church. **Russell Mann** was hired as our new guitarist.
- 3) Gratitude was expressed to Children's Ministry Director Marie Schroeder and her team for a great **Fall Fest**.
- 4) Beginning November 4th, Sue Armour and Don Forte will begin teaching a new **Pre-School Sunday School Class**.
- 5) All remaining details for the **new Church sign** have been finished, and installation is scheduled for the first week in December.
- 6) Rev. Bob James is organizing a Church **trip to Israel** in 2019. Stay tuned for more details.
- 7) Did you know you can **give to the Church electronically**? There are several ways - through your bank, automatic withdrawals or the church website. It's an easy option to ensure regular giving. Questions? Contact Elder Kendra Bowers.
- 8) **Debt Reduction Campaign** receipts through October 25th were \$173,482, which is 69% of the goal of \$250,000.
- 9) **General Fund** income through September 30th was \$318,109 and expenses were \$343,763 for a shortage of \$25,654. The **reserve checking account balance** is currently \$32,391.



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