

CORNERSTONE

Monthly Newsletter

January Wednesday Night Meals

Instead of serving ourselves buffet style, the meals are being served by the kitchen team.

JAN. 6TH

BBQ, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans & Dessert



JAN. 13TH

Spaghetti, Salad, & Dessert



JAN. 20TH

Beef Vegetable Soup, Salad, & Dessert



JAN. 27TH

Chicken Marsala, Noodles, Salad, & Dessert



Meet New Member: Lugenia Perry



Lugenia Sue Emmette Perry entered this world as a bouncing baby girl to parents, Frank and Kate Emmette on November 30, 1949. They were members of Highland Heights Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Emmette was a teacher at Treadwell who some members might remember.

Lugenia was active in the youth activities, women's circle and Sunday school.

Later on she became active with the Order of the Eastern Star, Shriners Association and the Masonic Lodge while married to her late husband, Thomas W. Perry.

Lugenia and Thomas were married 35 years as of July 6th, 2020. Thomas passed away on July 7th, 2020.

In lieu of having children, Thomas and Lugenia helped to take care of and provide homes for seven rescue Greyhounds: Blixen, Ivory, Heaven, Simon, Florida, Ethan and Muriell. Samantha Houston (Sam) is the newest addition, a Houston rescue.

Lugenia was absent from the church for awhile but is now making a comeback to HHPC through her friendship with Rhonda King and Terri Butt.

Lugenia joined HHPC by Reaffirmation of Faith on December 6, 2020.



At the dawn of a new year, we are filled with hope for what is to come, and have thankfulness in our hearts for what has already passed. We pray to keep our focus where it needs to be this year and that we'll have a year filled with joy and love.

Church Leadership

Staff

Tim Foster Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
Jason Gatlin Youth Director
Nikki Bond Children's Ministry Director
Aaron Proctor 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
Mike Bishop Guitarist
Jason Gatlin Audio Visual Technician
Chrissy Thornton Parents' Day Out Director

Elders

Bob Donan - **Clerk**
Class of 2021
 Steve Allen
 Steve Deaux
 Charle Dunstan

Class of 2022

Josh Bond
 Lin Fryman
 Traci Gatlin

Class of 2023

Kendra Bowers
 Lesa Hart
 Perk Perkins

Deacons

Class of 2021

Joey Clark
 George Krug
 Debra Wright

Class of 2022

Janice Linder
 Linda Melear - **Moderator**
 Karen Huddleston

Class of 2023

Barbara Almond
 Joe Dobson
 Barb James

Pastor's Remarks



Can you guess what the top five New Year's resolutions are? #1 is exercise more. #2 is lose weight. #3 is eat healthier. #4 is get out of debt. #5 is spend more time with family. Chances are we will make at least one of these resolutions as we begin 2021.

I want to recommend that we make a spiritual resolution, a resolve to follow the Golden Rule: "Do to others as you would have them do to you" (Luke 6:31). Why do you think Jesus taught His followers to treat others the way they wanted to be treated? I think it's because of what He saw and heard. He must have been watching and listening to the way they interacted, and it hurt Him to see how often they both wounded and neglected each other.

In order to follow the Golden Rule, one of the things we ought *to stop doing* is having "fun" at the expense of others. When we are about to say something about someone in their presence but to other people that would embarrass them and would embarrass us if the shoe was on the other foot, Jesus wants us to keep our mouths shut. For example, since we don't want people to laugh at the way we look, we can rest assured other people feel the same way.

In order to follow the Golden Rule, one of the things we ought *to start doing* is building other people up. When we see someone has done something that was kind or helpful, Jesus wants us to open our mouths. For example, since we like it when someone appreciates what we have done, we can rest assured other people feel the same way.

Let's make a New Year's resolution to follow the Golden Rule.

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

Your Pastor and Friend,

JANUARY

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | | 1 New Year's Day Office Closed | 2 11:00 Un-decorate the Church Holley Sullivan |
| 3 The Lord's Supper Ordination and Installation of Deacons and Elders 6:00 Grace Bible Church | 4 | 5 | 6 5:30 Supper 6:30 Children's activities Pastor Tim's Bible Survey Pastor Bob's Men's Bible Study Jr. & Sr. High Youth 7:30 Choir practice Cindy Phillips | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 12:15 Deacons' Mtg, Lunch and training Lori Remington 6:00 Grace Bible Church | 11 Rachel Brown | 12 | 13 5:30 Supper 6:30 Children's activities Aaron's Bible Study & Bball Pastor Tim's Bible Survey Pastor Bob's Men's Bible Study Jr. & Sr. High Youth 7:30 Choir practice Mary Smith | 14 5:30 Forever Young - Women's Fellowship 6:30 Men's Supper | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday 6:00 Grace Bible Church | 18 Randy & Sandie Brockwell | 19 7:00 Marine Corps League Shannon Foster | 20 5:30 Supper 6:30 Children's activities Pastor Tim's Bible Survey Pastor Bob's Men's Bible Study Jr. & Sr. High Youth 7:30 Choir practice Jeannette Grant | 21 10:30 Hope Circle Aven Gatlin | 22 12:30 - 5:00 Central South Presbytery in Corinth, MS or virtual. | 23 Tim Foster |
| 24 Ally Brockwell Michelle Bushey 6:00 Grace Bible Church | 25 | 26 | 27 5:30 Supper 6:30 Children's activities Pastor Tim's Bible Survey Pastor Bob's Men's Bible Study Jr. & Sr. High Youth 7:30 Choir practice | 28 10:30 Sarah Circle 6:30 Elders' Mtg Barbara Whitaker | 29 | 30 Mary Elizabeth Hart John Maki |
| 31 6:00 Grace Bible Church | | | | | | |

Blue names = Birthdays

Red Couples = Anniversaries

**Have you seen
these bags?**



This is a Deacons' service project. They are calling them "Blessing Bags."

These bags are packed with non-perishable items and are available for you to take to someone you know who is in need.

Polly, the woman who owns the company that cleans our Church, recently saw a homeless person with one of these bags.

Of course, the pantry is still available when people show up needing food. We show them our shelves and give them bags and let them do their own "shopping."

Please remember to keep our shelves filled so we have a variety to offer.



Highland Heights Presbyterian PDO/Pre-K

*School to begin
Spring Term*



Our PDO is currently at capacity. Our kids and teachers are taking care to be safe. It is important that these young children are learning so much during these pre-school years. HHPC PDO/Pre-K has an excellent reputation for preparing these kids for school.

In just a few weeks we will be accepting registrations for the Summer and Fall terms.

Aaron Proctor's (our Recreation Ministry Director) Christmas Mission:



Man...

When I say God is SO GOOD! & He is so worthy to be praised! I mean that!

Project Christ Ministries

Homeless Christmas Day Brunch 2020 was a HUGE SUCCESS!

volunteers, the servers, the sharers, & the prayers... we wouldn't have gotten the job done!

My heart & spirit honestly couldn't be more happy right now.

This was, without a doubt, the best Christmas gift yet.

To everyone who donated.. God bless you!

To everyone who came out & volunteered, I seriously can't thank you enough!

We couldn't have done it without each & every single one of you!

What a way to celebrate the birthday of our King, Christ Jesus!



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



God supplied every need to where we were able to

feed OVER 100 people! COME ON!

We were even able to give out clothes, coats, AND shoes!



If it wasn't for God, Chef Vidal, the donors, the



YOUTH



JASON GATLIN
YOUTH DIRECTOR
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January

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|----------|
| | | | | 31 High School Lock in | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Book of Daniel | 4 | 5 | 6 Lesson & Activity | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Book of Daniel | 11 | 12 | 13 Lesson & Activity | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Lesson TBD | 18 | 19 | 20 Find Trip Tentative | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Lesson TBD | 24 | 26 | 27 Lesson & Activity | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 Lesson TBD | | | | | | |

Youth News

Well, we are officially bringing 2020 to an end but it seems the same topics are going to follow us into 2021. Lockdowns, masks, social distancing, vaccines and the political divide. The youth will however attempt to stay resilient and continue with as close to “normal” schedules and events whenever possible. That said, I am looking forward to 2021, but I will be planning things on the fly based on capacities, shutdowns, mandates, and whatever else 21 wants to throw at us.

As for what is scheduled, for the high school youth, there will be a lock-in for New Years. We will have dinner, celebrate the new year, play games and watch movies. You don’t need to bring anything but yourself.

I will have a field trip planned for all youth in middle to late January, but where will depend on how the lockdowns are going. I may plan a special night-in if we have capacity issues.

I will be looking into a group messaging type of service for the youth and parents. While I keep contact with the older youth pretty directly, I will look for options for my younger group and parents that will be easy to use. Look for info on that in the next few weeks.

Lastly, I would like to thank the congregation for supporting the youth. Without your help, what I do would not be possible. Your prayers and financial support go a long way in supporting the youth and me.

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday 2021

I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. Psalm 139:14 KJV

On January 13, 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation designating January 22 as the first National Sanctity of Human Life Day. (January 22, 1973, was the day the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion-on-demand in all 50 states.) Churches around the United States use the day to celebrate God's gift of life, commemorate the many lives lost to abortion, and commit themselves to protecting human life at every stage.

Churches continue to recognize the third Sunday in January as Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. In 2021, that date will be January 17.



We are participating in the Bottles for Life campaign of Life Choices. Many bottles have been picked up. The deadline to return the bottles is January 31st. Life Choices will pick them up the first week of February. The idea is for you to put your spare change in the bottle. However, cash and checks are fine, too. Please make checks out to Life Choices of Memphis. These funds do not need to go through our accounting system.

If you are not coming in-person to Church, you can still participate. Just drop a check in the mail, and we will turn it in with the rest of the bottles we collect. Our Church has been one of the highest donors in Memphis.

In 2020, the Elders offered space at HHPC - rent-free - to Life Choices for a satellite office/clinic. The Life Choices Board greatly appreciated the offer and is working with Ruling Elder Rob McCleary and Pastor Tim on the details and the timing. Initially the plan is for Life Choices to use space at Highland Heights once a week during the day. On their end, they are working on staffing and equipment needs. On our end, depending on which services might be offered, we will need to do some renovations to the rooms Life Choices will use. *Please ask the Lord to bless both parties as we move together to this next level of partnership.*

A Very Merry Sunday School



Usually there is a Children's Christmas Program on a December Sunday evening. As with everything else this year, we had to punt but Santa still came to visit. During the Sunday School hour, there were stories, skits and lessons. It was a big hit. Thank you all.

Nikki Bond, our Children's Ministry Director, is always in need of volunteers for the nursery and for acolytes. If you can help, contact her at ndielfi2@gmail.com.

Elders' Notes - 12.17.20

- 1) **Lugenia Perry joined the Church** by Reaffirmation of Faith on December 6. Welcome back to HHPC, Lu!
- 2) **60 pledges, totaling \$310,844**, have been turned in, which is 68% of the 2021 Budget of \$460,051 - a great start. Have you turned in your pledge card?
- 3) The elders accepted a bid of \$31,000 **to connect to city sewer service**. If the Lightman family, who owns the property west of the Church, were not bearing the brunt of the expense, it would cost the Church over \$100,000.
- 4) At the **Annual Congregational Meeting** on November 29, Kendra Bowers, Lesa Hart and Perk Perkins were elected **Ruling Elders**; Karen Huddleston, Barbara Almond, Joe Dobson, and Barb James were elected **Deacons**.
- 5) This year there will be two **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services** - at 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- 6) **From Memphis to Kenya** - \$30/month per HHPC family helps to feed the 90+ children in our adopted orphanage in Kenya. *Are you giving to this important ministry?*
- 7) **The Christmas Offering** this year has been earmarked by the Elders for the **Burn the Mortgage Campaign**.
- 8) **Burn the Mortgage Campaign** receipts through December 13 were \$76,922, which is 26.8% of the goal of \$287,000. The combination of BMC receipts and monthly mortgage payments has decreased the balance to \$204,604. *The next principal payment of \$26,510 includes Christmas Offering gifts and will reduce the balance to \$179,644.*
- 9) **General Ministry Fund** income through November 30 was \$430,408 and expenses were \$405,436 for a surplus of \$24,972. The **General Ministry Fund balance** on November 30 was \$71,945.



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