

Damin Spritzer has requested to postpone her concert until the 2021-2022 season due to travel concerns. We look forward to welcoming her then. **However, we will still have a concert!**

January 31, 2021 @ 4:00 p.m.

(In Person and Live Stream)

Graeme Shields & Brenda Portman

Local composer/organists performing works by Graeme Shields & Brenda Portman (including several premieres)!

PRAYER REQUESTS

“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Phillipians 4:6

Our church has a very active and deeply committed prayer ministry.

The Electronic Prayer Chain has existed for a long time. This group of prayer servants (approximately 65 people) receive a list of prayer requests each week and they are faithful to pray for the needs of others. They may also receive emails during the week with urgent prayer requests.

How to submit a prayer request:

- Send a prayer request through the link, prayerministry@hpcumc.org, which can be found under “Care and Prayer” on the church website.
- Submit your prayer requests when you are registering your attendance on Sunday mornings for on-line services.
- Call the main church office (871-1345) or Diane Weaver (979-8190) to leave your prayer request.

A few other things:

- Your name will be included with the prayer request unless you indicate you want to remain anonymous.
- You will need to submit a prayer request each week for it to remain on the prayer list.
- Let us know if support beyond prayers is desired as we are here to care for you during this difficult time.
- If you feel called to be a prayer servant, please contact Diane Weaver, diweaver@hpcumc.org to be added to the prayer team list.

CONTACT OUR CHURCH STAFF

WORSHIP

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Rev. Doug Johns
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HOSPITALITY AND CONNECTING MINISTRIES

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Don Dixon

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SENIOR MINISTRY/PARISH VISITOR

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ADMINISTRATION

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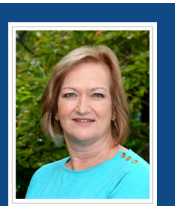
ENDOWMENT

Michael Vilardo
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RX: The Balm in Gilead

Bishop Michael Curry, of the Episcopal Church, presided over the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, an American actress. His message spoke of the dynamic transforming power of love and was shared with an audience of more than one billion people.



Pastor
Cathy Johns

Bishop Curry shared about slaves in American antebellum South and how they understood the transforming power of love. As they sang, “There’s a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole. There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.” In the midst of captivity, they lifted their voices and sang. Bishop Curry explains why:

“They sang, ‘If you cannot preach like Peter, and you cannot pray like Paul, you must tell the love of Jesus, how he died to save us all.’ That’s the balm in Gilead. This way of love, it is the way of life. They got it. He died to save us all. He didn’t die for anything he could get out of it. Jesus did not get an honorary doctorate for dying. He gave up his life, he sacrificed his life, for the good of others, for the good of the other, for the well-being of the world, for us.”

I am weary of hearing how terrible things are. I am eager for healing, for the balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole. Our nation and world are broken, ill, and torn. A revolution of transforming love can bring wholeness and unity to the world. It all begins with going to the source of healing, our God who made heaven and earth, and following Jesus’ example of sacrificial love.

This weekend’s scripture, Matthew 15:21-28, reveals how the presence of Christ’s love for all people breaks down walls that separate and sets us free.

I look forward to connecting with you in worship this Sunday. Please read the update that is posted in News and Happenings and on our website regarding possible criteria for resuming in-person worship in the future.

Peace,

Pastor Cathy

CELEBRATING OUR STEWARDSHIP

Hyde Park Community UMC		
2020 Operating Income and Expense		
December, 2020	Annual Budget	Actual YTD
Pledged Income	\$ 1,227,361	\$ 1,236,306
Unpledged Income	474,968	359,809
Endowment Draw	1,355,164	1,322,161
Other Income	167,883	142,160
Total Income	\$ 3,225,376	\$ 3,060,436
Admin Team	\$ 870,326	\$ 821,334
Staff Ministry	1,568,880	1,518,893
Apportionments	261,345	261,385
Communication Team	17,000	11,187
Bimel Outreach	217,500	198,385
Comm Min Global Out	186,800	165,852
Connecting Ministries	15,000	4,160
Discipleship Ministry	60,875	15,051
Worship Team	27,650	18,645
Total Expenses	\$3,225,376	\$ 3,014,892
Net Oper Inc vs Exp	-	\$ 45,544

ONLINE TRAINING DAY

On January 30th, you are invited to take part in a virtual training day focusing on leadership in divided times and courageous responses to various forms of injustice, with two extraordinary keynote speakers and breakout session leaders.

The training will be from 9:00am - 1:00pm. The cost is \$10 and the registration deadline is January 27.

To learn more about the keynote speakers (Bishop Palmer and Rev. Dr. F. Douglas Powe, Jr.), the options for breakout sessions, more information about the day, and to register please visit:

https://www.orvumc.org/district/ohiorivervalley/news/resisting-injustice-leading-through-divided-times-0?fbclid=IwAR2_1_3tcMLRQrbg8IjwpsOWCkEpZEZIVkHVghsabDzTGly2Xtm87aubTI

LENTEN STUDY

Seven Words: Listening to Christ from the Cross by Rev. Susan Robb
Led by Pastor Dave
6-week Bible, book/DVD study via Zoom
Meets weekly Thursday evenings 6-7:30pm
February 18 - March 25.

The most difficult part of Lent is, of course, contemplating our Savior on the cross: the physical pain, the humiliation, and the undeniable injustice. Our hearts break. It's natural to try and avoid the reality of how Jesus died, but it is from the cross that Jesus shows his deepest love for us. As Jesus draws his final breath and utters his last words, it is then that his deep trust in the Father and his divine glory are revealed. In Seven Words, Susan Robb looks at Christ's final words from a biblical and historical perspective, showing how we can find life and hope in them.

Purchase a book in advance through Cokesbury.com or Amazon.com. Register through REALM at www.hpcumc.org or Pastor Dave at dweaver@hpcumc.org or 979-8184.

THE CENTER FOR RESPITE CARE DONATION DRIVE

Help those recovering from medical procedures at The Center. We will be collecting the below NEW (not used) items through January 2021. Drop off to the church any day from 9:00am-5:00pm in the Social Hall (right off the Welcome Center).

Seasonal items for cooler weather:

- Thermal sets for men and women (all sizes)
- Hoodies (all sizes)
- Jogging suits (all sizes)
- Winter hats
- Gloves
- Scarves

Personal care items:

- Undergarments for men and women (sizes medium to XL)
- Shower shoes (see picture – please, no flip flops)
- Fingernail clippers
- Cotton balls
- Combs and hair brushes
- Fingernail polish
- Fingernail polish remover

COVID-19 UPDATE

The COVID-19 Task Force met Sunday, January 10th and shared the following insights and agreed upon the following:

- We (HPC/The Warehouse) do not want to accidentally stress our hospitals and health workers by being the cause of one more person being added to the rise in new cases.
- Only 1.4% of the county has been vaccinated to date and the "new case" rate is climbing fast.
- New case rates in Ohio have increased by 12% last week (week of 1/4/21)
- Hamilton County is the 3rd highest county (new cases) in the state.

The Task Force discussed criteria needed to safely resume in-person worship. Although nothing definitive was settled upon there was consensus that for in-person worship to safely resume there would need to be:

- Decreased levels of new cases locally
- A Decline in hospital related cases, including a decline in ICU cases
- Comparable or fewer new cases than in March 2020 (which lead to the state-wide shut down, and suspension of in-Person worship).

In light of the Task Force recommendation, the Servant Leadership Board voted to continue the suspension of on-line Worship indefinitely. The Task Force will meet in mid-February to re-evaluate.

Thank you for your continued prayers, patience, and support as we navigate these challenging days together.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

What is a Stephen Minister? Do you have a need for one?

A Stephen Minister is a lay person who has had 50-hours of intense training by a HPCUMC pastor and a leader team. They are Christian care-givers who companion others through some of life's most difficult transitions. The Stephen Minister listens and shows compassion by walking with the person going through difficult times. They help others work through their thoughts and feelings. The relationships are always confidential, one-on-one, male-to-male and female-to-female. Usually they meet in-person, but they will make "tele-care" calls while under C-19 restrictions. *To know more about the whole Stephen Ministry process, please contact Pastor Dave at dweaver@hpcumc.org or call 979-8184*