

# The Spire

A Publication of Hillcrest United Methodist Church  
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**April 2019**



## TENEBRAE SERVICE



A SERVICE OF SHADOWS

**Friday**

**April 19, 2019**

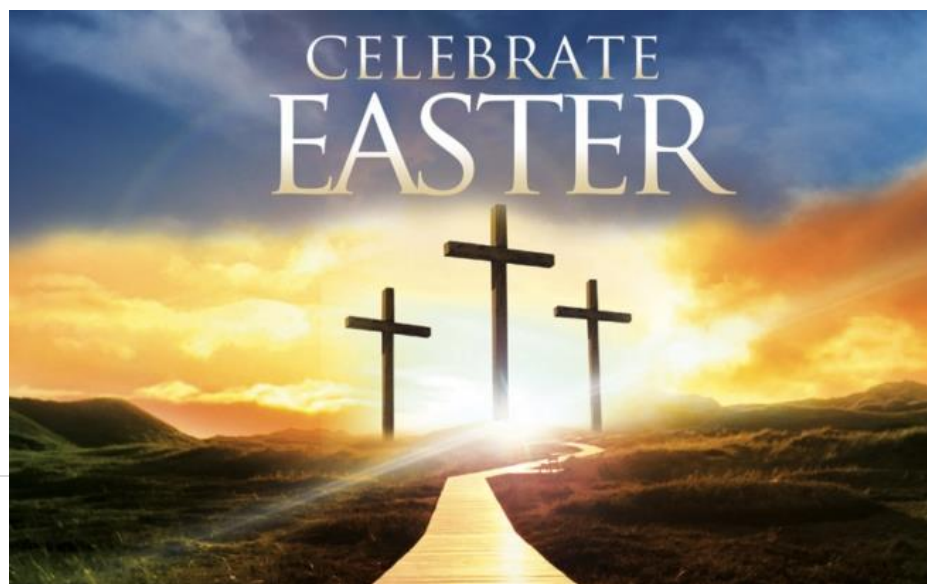
7:00p

At Hillcrest UMC

**Sunday, April 21,  
2019**

9:30a Worship

Easter Basket  
Hunt for the Kids,  
following Worship!



## People are the Church

### Prayer Requests

*The following persons have been raised in prayer during the month of March:*

Marie Burton; Becky & Nathan Cahn; Barb Ermisch; Linda Fleming; Dawn Kreutz;  
Melissa Kuyper & Kids; Maxine Mehlhoff; Ronin Millette; Edith Ottinger;  
Jim & Barb Van Winkle; Louis Waters; Jim Whiting

**The Johnson Family**—lone, Ron (following bypass surgery), Stacy (increased care of parents)

**Mary Jo Miceli**—battling cancer

**Adrian Washington**—great grandson of Carol Herdt, recently diagnosed with Lupus

### Those we Have Lost

**Glen Ellingson** (5/2/1926-2/11/2019)

*His life was celebrated at Hillcrest UMC on Saturday, March 9, 2019.*

**Dona Severson** (11/08/1926—03-06-2019)

*Funeral Information Pending*

**Patty Westrud**—mother of Sarah Trowbridge, passed away unexpectedly.

### It's Easy to Submit a Request for Prayers!

Call: Elinor Colebank (952) 977-9114

(OR) Email Lynne Scherer: [imscherer@iphouse.com](mailto:imscherer@iphouse.com)

(OR) Call the church office (952) 881-8601

(OR) Fill out a Prayer Request Card on Sunday



### Dear Pastor Jill and Hillcrest UMC,

From the very bottom of our hearts, thank you for making Ashley's baptism such a wonderful day. There was so much love and thought poured into every element of the service. A huge thank you to the choir for putting their talents and time into learning such a beautiful version of "Jesus Loves Me." It made this Mommy cry!

The passage selected, as well as the sermon, were wonderful. Chris and I (as well as our family) talked later that afternoon about how much we took away from the service! And finally, thank you for Ashley's blanket! Someone put a lot of time into creating it for her. As someone who attempts to crochet, I know there was a great deal of love in her gift – it was beautiful.

With Grateful hearts, The Fuhrman's

## **2019 Lent & Easter Schedule**

### **Fast This Lent?** *In the words of Pope Francis*

- ♥ Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- ♥ Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- ♥ Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- ♥ Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- ♥ Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- ♥ Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- ♥ Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- ♥ Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- ♥ Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- ♥ Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- ♥ Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

### **Soup Dinner & Lenten Study**

Last Sessions: April 3 & 10, 2019

Soup Meal: 5:30p in the Fellowship Hall at Hillcrest UMC

Lenten Study: 6:00p in the Fellowship Hall at Hillcrest UMC

*Sign up to help set-up, serve and (light) clean-up following the meal.*

*Sign-up sheet is in the Coat Room.*

### **Maundy Thursday Service**

Thursday, April 18, 2019

7:00p at Portland Avenue UMC in Bloomington, MN

### **Tenebrae Service—A Service of Darkness**

Friday, April 19, 2019

7:00p at Hillcrest United Methodist Church

*Prepare your hearts for Easter as we remember Jesus' journey to the cross.*

## **Easter Sunday Service**

Sunday, April 21, 2019

9:30a at Hillcrest UMC

Easter Basket Hunt for the kids following worship!

Easter Offering will be combined with April Communion Offering, to go to the building fund for The Tabernacle at Koronis Ministries in Paynesville, MN. More information about The Tabernacle is found under "Mission News".

## **Committee Meetings & Small Groups**

### **Membership, Evangelism, Missions & Outreach**

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 10:00a in the Library

### **Staff/Parish Relations Committee**

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:00p in the Library

### **Trustees Committee**

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:00p in the Gathering Room

### **Church Council**

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 8:00p in the Gathering Room

### **United Methodist Women Executive Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 9:45a in the Fireside Room

### **United Methodist Women Circle Day**

Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 11:00a in the Fellowship Hall

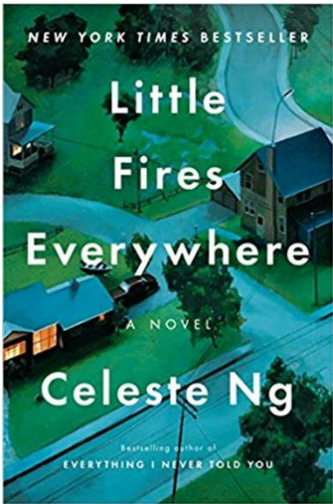
### **Finance Team**

Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 7:00p in the Gathering Room

## **Book Club**

**Monday, April 22, 2019                      1:00p in the Library**

From the bestselling author of *Everything I Never Told You*, a riveting novel that traces the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the enigmatic mother and



daughter who upend their lives. In Shaker Heights, a placid, progressive suburb of Cleveland, everything is planned – from the layout of the winding roads, to the colors of the houses, to the successful lives its residents will go on to lead. And no one embodies this spirit more than Elena Richardson, whose guiding principle is playing by the rules. Enter Mia Warren – an enigmatic artist and single mother – who arrives in this idyllic bubble with her teenaged daughter Pearl, and rents a house from the Richardsons. Soon Mia and Pearl become more than tenants: all four Richardson children are drawn to the mother-daughter pair. But Mia carries with her a mysterious past and a disregard for the status quo that threatens to upend this carefully ordered community. When old family friends of the Richardsons attempt to adopt a Chinese-American baby, a custody battle erupts that dramatically divides the town—and puts Mia and Elena on opposing sides. Suspicious of Mia and her motives, Elena is determined to uncover the secrets in Mia's past. But her obsession will come at unexpected and devastating costs. *Little Fires Everywhere* explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, and the ferocious pull of motherhood – and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster.

*Amazon.com Review*

## Adult Education

We've had a great experience learning about various religions of the world. In just a matter of a short 45 minutes or so after the Sunday worship service, we've heard from leaders of the Hindu, Buddhist, Judaism and Islam through short video presentations and had spirited discussions on various topics. We have even read a few verses from the Quran. Now, as we complete this segment of the program it is time to look forward to the next education opportunity. What would you like to explore and learn about? Please contact me about your ideas on what you would like to explore. Perhaps to learn more about the Cults? A C.S. Lewis book or two? Early church writers? Pastor Jerry

## Tai Chi

### Thursdays, 10:30a in the Fellowship Hall.

The next session of Tai Chi will start on March 21st. There are 7 lessons in each session (no class on April 11th). If you have been thinking about trying Tai Chi, come check them out on any Thursday! The class is modified to the abilities of the people there—if you can't stand for a long period of time, the exercises are modified for those who are sitting. We hope you consider joining us for a trial session! Please note the cost of the session has increased to \$64.00, \$8.00 per class (full 7 class session) or \$10.00 per drop in.

## M&M Event

Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – 12:00p

Menu: pizza, salad, cookies & ice cream

Program: Presented by Tracy Keibler, executive director of Apparent Plan, a nonprofit serving seniors. She will be presenting on Medicare topics you need to



know before you are in the middle of a health crisis. The presentation will cover the qualifying three-day stay, observation status and improvement standard facts. Tracy will also cover other benefits you are eligible for through Medicare. Knowing what to do in certain situations can save money. If you are a Medicare beneficiary or if you are caring for someone who is, you will be interested in this presentation.

Please sign up on the sheet located on the visitor's table in the narthex. The last day to sign up will be Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. *We will be accepting a free will offering for the months of April and May. Sign up for the event is still required to ensure that we have ordered enough food. Invite friends to join us!*

**Looking ahead for the May 14<sup>th</sup> program** - Colleen Wold will present a show filled with songs and laughter. She has over 12 years of experience in recreational therapy. Colleen mentioned that she attended HUMC, at one time, and also lived in the neighborhood.

## Mission News

### Diapers for VEAP

1,652 diapers have been donated since the start of this project in 2009. Thanks to the faithful who have sewn the diapers. Still accepting cotton t shirts sized large or larger. Place the t-shirts in the basket labeled "T-shirts" in the Coat Room. The completed diapers are given to VEAP.

### Did You Know?

Hillcrest UMC collects...These collection boxes are located on a shelf in the library. There are



persons who check the boxes periodically and take the items to their designated donation site. If you have any personal care items (shampoos, body

wash, hotel sizes); aluminum pull tabs; or jewelry that is looking for a new home, consider bringing it to Hillcrest with you the next time you come! Thank you for those persons who donate to these causes.

## **April 2019 Mission Moment**

In April, and for our special Easter Offering, we will be collecting financial donations to the new Tabernacle being built at Camp Koronis. What is a Tabernacle, you might ask? Webster Dictionary defines it as *a meeting place for worship*. The Tabernacle at Camp Koronis lived an amazing 9 decade life, being a holy space where all who came found fellowship with each other and with the Lord, and where thousands of persons were challenged to orient their lives toward Jesus. However, the old Tabernacle was without restrooms, air conditioning, ceiling fans, heat, and was struggling with a leaking roof and cracked foundation. The time had finally come to rebuild the Tabernacle for future generations!

The new Tabernacle will be a multi-level, multi-use meeting and worship space that's available year round (the old Tabernacle was not!). State of the art technology, modern amenities and full accessibility will be incorporated into the new building. The rebuild has started, and they are seeking donations and support to continue the build. *From [www.minnesotaumc.org](http://www.minnesotaumc.org)*

Jill Jungers will speak during worship on Sunday, April 7th, to share her personal experiences at the Tabernacle at Camp Koronis. For more information on the Tabernacle, go to [www.minnesotaumc.org](http://www.minnesotaumc.org) and type "Tabernacle" in the search bar. You can also go to [vimeo.com/260791177](https://vimeo.com/260791177) to view a video featuring Pastor Matt Sipe, and his wife Julie!

Please prayerfully consider how you can support the rebuilding of the Tabernacle. Contributions can be given all month long using the "April Communion Offering Envelopes" or by writing Tabernacle in the MEMO line of your check. Any questions can be directed to Lynne Scherer, chair of MEMO, or Kaite, interim co-chair of MEMO.

## **March 2019 Mission Re-Cap**

In March, we took a special offering during the month for **Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge**, a nonprofit organization dedicated to restoring hope to people struggling with drug and alcohol addiction ([www.mntc.org](http://www.mntc.org)). On March 10, 2019 MNTC's Choir was going to present a concert for us. Unfortunately, due to the weather, the concert was cancelled but has been **RESCHEDULED** for May 12, 2019 during worship! (see back page).

A special thank you to those persons who gave to the March Communion Offering. As of the printing of this newsletter, around \$150.00 was given to help support their programming. Did you miss your chance to give to MNTC in March? There will be a second opportunity during a Special Offering on May 12th during their concert. Thank you to all who have given to

support Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge during the month of March.

## **Financial News**

### **How High Can You Count?**

We're looking for a few more volunteers to be a Sunday counter. Interested? See Kay Young for more information. Requirements are the knowledge of a 10-key adding machine and legible writing.

### **First Quarter 2019 Financial Statements**

Statements will be available on Sunday, April 7th. See Kay Young with any questions.

### **2019 Budget**

At the 2018 Annual Church Meeting on Sunday, February 3, the proposed operating budget for 2019 was approved by those in attendance with the understanding that our estimated budget revenue was \$14, 781 short of the estimated budget expenses. In order to reduce this projected shortfall, and assure funds are budgeted for new programs (such as the Children/Youth Coordinator position), we are asking for help from our members and supporters by making a special donation or additional pledge to Hillcrest. Please prayerfully consider how you can help, and then: call the church to add to your pledge, email [treasurer@hillcrestmethodist.org](mailto:treasurer@hillcrestmethodist.org), or use a "budget shortfall" envelope, located on the literature shelf in the Coat Room. Your help is appreciated! Without YOU, Hillcrest could not have had such an amazing 2018! Lets make 2019 just as amazing!

### **Volunteer Ministry Opportunity**

We have a volunteer ministry opportunity available to assist Lyman Demaray, our Church Treasurer, with accounts payable. We anticipate the duties will be completed in approximately 3 hours per week, with flexible hours. If you can balance your own check book, you can do this work!

The position includes:

- Becoming familiar with the Parish Soft accounting system for Ledger and Payables
- Receiving requests for payment from church vendors and members
- Reviewing payment request for accuracy and authorizing approval
- Assuring that appropriate payments are made

If you have an interest in learning more about this ministry opportunity please reach out to Lyman directly.



## Electronic Giving

Hillcrest UMC has started receiving electronic donations! Starting on January 1st, the congregation has had the option to set up an account to have their giving automatically transferred to Hillcrest UMC. The system is running fabulously! If you are interested in exploring the option of Electronic Giving, see Kay Young—she has detailed instructions for you! You can also sign up via the “Giving” Button on our website [www.hillcrestmethodist.org](http://www.hillcrestmethodist.org).

## United Methodist Women News

### Emma Norton “Opening Doors Dinner”

Emma Norton Services (ENS) is a nonprofit organization that actively combats poverty and positively impacting more than 250 people annually. ENS partners with women, children, and families who are homeless and experiencing the challenges of mental, and or/chemical disabilities. Without having to worry about the basic need of a safe, secure place to live, women and children can utilize and focus on supportive programs, life skills, services, and opportunities available to accomplish their goal. ENS fosters stability and encourages personal growth at two locations. Emma Norton Residence is in the heart of downtown St. Paul, home to 50 individual women. Emma’s Place in Maplewood is home to 13 single parent families with three or more kids. Housing is permanent, the women and families they serve may reside at Emma Norton Residence and Emma’s Place as long as they desire. *Info from [www.emmanorton.org](http://www.emmanorton.org).*

On Thursday, April 25, 2019, Emma Norton Services will be holding their Annual Dinner and Silent Auction. They are looking for items for the silent auction and are reaching out to local church communities for help. They are requesting gift certificates to local businesses, as well as “experiences” - such as a Movie Basket with a new release movie, microwavable popcorn, drinks, and other treats, or a Spa Basket. Marilyn Sadloske will be collecting all Silent Auction donations, and they are due to her no later than April 8th. Please prayerfully consider how you can provide an item, or find a couple friends to put together a basket! Any questions can be directed to Marilyn Sadloske, or Kaite in the office.



# Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge Choir

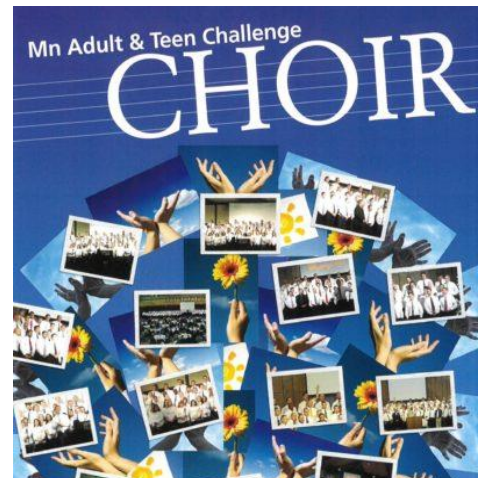
**RESCHEDULED FOR**

**MAY 12, 2019**

During Worship at 9:30a



Mn Adult & Teen Challenge



*Music & Testimonials*

*Light Refreshments to follow*

*Small Gift for the Women of the  
Church in Honor of Mother's Day*

# Hillcrest United Methodist Church

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## MISSION STATEMENT

*“Living the Ultimate Challenge —  
To Make a Difference in God's World”*

### How We Share Our Gifts

You will find our members  
out in the community  
serving meals at Loaves and  
Fishes...

There will be knitters  
working on prayer shawls  
or preemie hats while  
volunteering in the church  
office...

Others will be making  
blankets for a battered  
women's shelter.  
We will be found making  
sandwiches for homeless  
shelters in the church  
kitchen, making t-shirts into  
diapers...or simply caring  
for our neighbors in  
countless little ways.

People need care...  
we try to provide that care  
in the name of Jesus.

**Share your gifts—Join  
us!**

### Every Sunday:

Worship, 9:30a Fellowship, 10:30a  
Communion First Sunday of Every Month

### Hillcrest UMC Staff:

Pastor Jill Meents Certified Lay Minister Jerry Jensen  
Communications Coordinator: Kaite Knack  
Director of Music: Nancy Miller  
Organist/Pianist: Loryce Sivertson  
Child Care Center Director: Bonnie Beyer  
Child Care Staff: Jasmine Tapia Garcia, Bishara Haji, Samira Hashi, Pam  
LaMotte, Christine Merchant, Savannah Reineccius, Jessica Ronnei,  
Jennifer Contreras Sanchez, Becky Seaman, Jean Scott, Carla Sorensen  
and Kristin Zumberge

### Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday, 9:00a-3:00p & Friday, 9:00a-12:00p  
Church Office: 952-881-8601

### Child Care Center Hours:

Monday—Friday, 6:30a-6:00p  
Child Care Center: 952-881-5330