

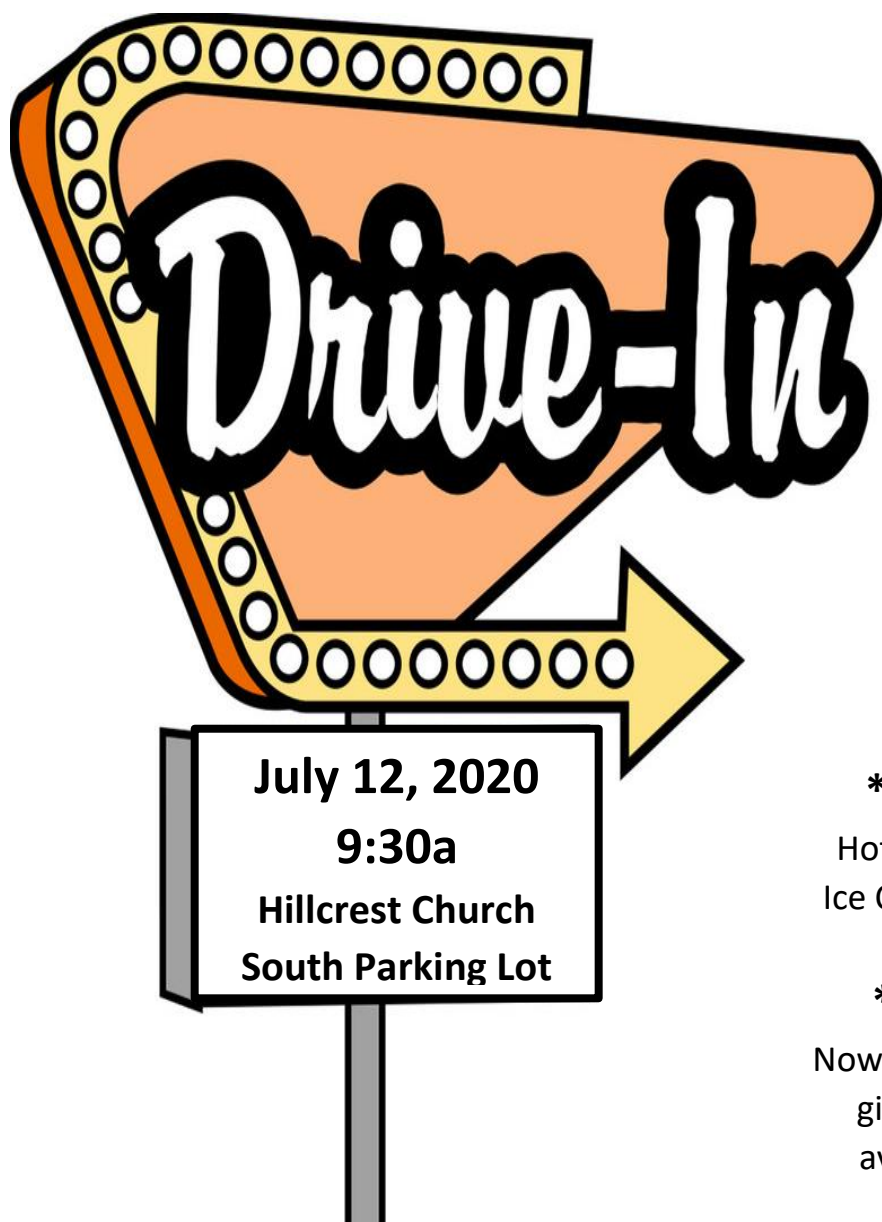
# The Spire

July 2020



9100 Russell Avenue South,  
Bloomington, MN 55431  
952-881-8601

hillcrestbloomington@gmail.com  
www.hillcrestmethodist.org  
www.facebook.com/hillcrestmethodistchurch



## Worship Service

**\*Stay in your Cars –**  
Our Worship Service will  
be broadcast to your radio!

**\*Treats during Worship**  
Hot Dogs served during Worship &  
Ice Cream Treats following Worship!

**\*Bring your Offerings –**  
Now's the chance to catch up on your  
giving envelopes! Ushers will be  
available to (safely) accept your  
offerings during worship.

**\*Socialize Safely -**  
Bring your masks and continue maintaining physical distance!

## People Are the Church

*The following persons were prayed for during the month of June:*

Marlys **Drebenstedt**, hip replacement surgery in May; Barb **Ermisch**; Linda **Fleming**; Dale **Grant**, brother of Marlin Grant, lung cancer in both lungs; Gary **Grant**, brother of Marlin Grant, Agent Orange Parkinson's; Claudia **Hicks**; Rudy **Koshir**; Dawn **Kreutz**, recent hospitalization due to pneumonia; Marilyn **Kreutz**; Judy **Liudahl**, recent surgery; Harlan **Mellem**; Ronin **Millette**; Ralph **Steward**, nephew of Wilma Steward, Stage 4 Melanoma Cancer; Barb **Van Winkle**; Ruth **Walker**; Adrian **Washington**; Jim **Whiting**; **Kathy**, friend of Wilma Steward, heart bypass surgery in early June, kidney transplant to be scheduled; Those affected by Covid-19; Those affected by the protests in Minneapolis and across the world.

The families of **Marvin "Bud" Burt**, **Marian Mathias**, and **Louis Waters**

### **Those We Have Lost**

Faye Thallman

*No Information has been provided to the church, and no information could be found, on the date of her passing or funeral information.*

### **Found on "Next Door Neighbor", an online group to keep the community connected:**

"During this stay at home time, I have appreciated and took more notice of the twice daily bell chimes coming from the United Methodist Church. It has become a reminder for me to be still for a few moments, listen and be thankful or pray. Today, I prayed for Kevan and for our Community." *Name redacted*



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

Call: Elinor Colebank (952) 977-9114

(OR) Email Lynne Scherer:

lmschere@iphouse.com

(OR) Call the Church Office (952) 881-8601

## From the Desk of Pastor Jill

### **"At the Threshold"**

*Stand at the kitchen door with me.*

*Honor the heart of transformation.*

*Honor your own heart where everything is always changing.*

*It is the very same dwelling.*

*Pause at the door.*

*Your heart needs this.*

*My heart needs this time for recognition or it will go astray.*

*It will forget to reach for joy... its true becoming.*

*Pause at the door.*

*This is good and necessary for this room is every room.*

*The world lives here.*

*Pausing each day helps us know nothing is outside of us.*

*Honor the heart that can feel the joy and the terror of the world in you and in me.*

*Only what is truly human can walk this path, walk through and be constant.*

*Bow to that heart. Hold my hand. I need you for courage.*

*We become who we are together, each needing the other.*



*Alone is a myth. The path leads through this door.  
I cannot go to the kitchen without you. Let us enter together.  
--Gunilla Norris*

## **Questions for Reflection**

1. There is joy and terror in the world. What are **you** experiencing?
2. Knowing that ‘nothing is outside us...’ At this threshold, what might you name and more fully embody?
3. What does your **heart** need at this time?
4. “We become who we are together...” How are you listening, joining hands, and purposefully walking through the next door with others?

## **Financial Update**

### **2020 Second Quarter Giving Statements**

Second Quarter Giving Statements will be available on July 2, 2020. Kay Young will mail them out to everyone. If you do not receive yours, or have further questions, please see Kay Young.

### **Giving During Covid-19**

Help Support Hillcrest Church during the pandemic! Even though the church building is closed, we are still ministering to those in need! We need your support now, more than ever! You can 1) Send your offering envelopes to the church, we will get them to the money counters for you! 2) Give Electronically – you can go to [www.hillcrestmethodist.org](http://www.hillcrestmethodist.org) and click the donate page to register. You can register to give as a one time only gift, or schedule your offerings. See Kay Young with questions and to receive a complete copy of registration instructions) or 3) Bring your offerings to the July 12, 2020 Drive-In Worship Service! Ushers will be there to collect all offerings! We thank you for remembering Hillcrest Church during the pandemic! Any further questions can be directed to Kay Young or Treasurer, Lyman Demaray.

### **Financial Completion on Past Projects**

Hillcrest Church has undergone some amazing renovations, both before and during the pandemic! A couple projects are still looking for financial support to bring their balance to zero.

- The Air conditioner in the sanctuary (which was used by the Covid Choir and feels AMAZING!) has a remaining balance of \$3,555.
- The New Windows in the Narthex and Sacristy (thank you Blaine for staining the wood!) has a remaining balance of \$5,831.

To further support either of these projects, please write “A/C” or “Windows” on your offering envelope or in the memo of your check. Any questions about these projects can be directed to your Trustee Committee. A HUGE THANK YOU to those who have supported these extra projects along with your pledged giving!

## **Outreach Update**

MEMO members continue to stay safe at home while also communicating with each other via the phone and e-mail. We will not be meeting in person in either July or August. (And possibly even further.) It is important to have committee members be safe, feel safe, take good care of themselves, and not worry. We accept with understanding the resignation of Yvonne S. as a faithful member of MEMO and an outstanding note taker. She has done an amazing job of keeping our minutes current. Kudos and thanks for a job well done, Yvonne. We will miss you...a lot!

As members of MEMO, we want to thank you members and friends of Hillcrest UMC for your on-going generosity in giving to outreach projects that we have focused on during the year. We have done our best to be thoughtful and considerate in focusing on mission projects. For the remainder of 2020, we will have zero projects that involve product collection, as we recognize there are too many touchpoints from purchasing a product to delivery.

**Here is a 2020 recap:**

January: Bridging (collecting blankets, towels, linens and more).

February: February Communion Offering & Product Collection: personal care products for VEAP.

March: March Communion Offering: Hillcrest Community School

April: Easter Offering: Designated to the Graners & HCI

May: Continued our Easter Offering Giving

June: Focus on our neighborhood in need: Bridging, Food for Thought (Education Foundation of Bloomington), Loaves and Fishes, and VEAP

July: There will NOT be a new focus this month. However, if you have not given to our neighborhood in need June Communion Offering project, or would like to give an additional contribution, please do so. Indicate: June Communion Offering on your envelope or on the memo line of your check. (Thank you!). In addition, you may also remember our missionaries, the Graners if you have not.

**Some initial planning for the remainder of 2020 includes:**

August: Thanking the Graners (missionaries)...we will let you know how much has been collected for their continued work.

Christmas Offering: "The Sheridan Story" (TBD) or other (suggestions welcome)

Also, we will let you know if VEAP is collecting school supplies for the 2020-21 school year. If so, we will make sure you have an opportunity to give financial support in August to VEAP for the purchase of school supplies.

As always, we are open to suggestions for mission projects. In addition, if you would like to join us, we would love to have you be a part of this team. We are in this together!

Be well, kind, safe, and at home when you can.

Your Grateful MEMO Team, Lynne Scherer, MEMO Chair

## **Committee Meetings & Small Groups**

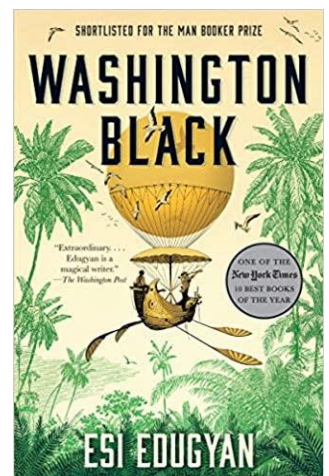
### **Book Club**

The Hillcrest Church Book Club has resumed meeting! They met in June 2020 in the fresh air outside and had a great discussion! Everyone is welcome to join!

#### **Monday, July 13, 2020 at 1:00p**

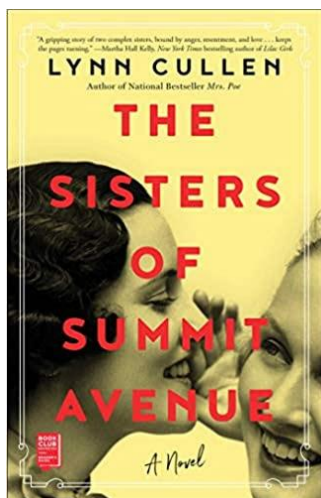
***Winner of the 2018 Scotiabank Giller Prize; A dazzling, original novel of slavery and freedom, from the author of the international bestseller Half-Blood Blues***

When two English brothers arrive at a Barbados sugar plantation, they bring with them a darkness beyond what the slaves have already known. Washington Black – an eleven year-old field slave – is horrified to find himself chosen to live in the quarters of one of these men. But the man is not as Washington expects him to be. His new master is the eccentric Christopher Wilde – naturalist, explorer, inventor and



abolitionist – whose obsession to perfect a winged flying machine disturbs all who know him. Washington is initiated into a world of wonder: a world where the night sea is set alight with fields of jellyfish, where a simple cloth canopy can propel a man across the sky, where even a boy born in chains may embrace a life of dignity and meaning – and where two people, separated by an impossible divide, can begin to see each other as human. But when a man is killed one fateful night, Washington is left to the mercy of his new masters. Christopher Wilde must choose between family ties and young Washington's life. What follows is a flight along the eastern coast of America, as the men attempt to elude the bounty that has been placed on Washington's head. Their journey opens them up to the extraordinary: to a dark encounter with a necropsicist, a scholar of the flesh; to a voyage aboard a vessel captained by a hunter of a different kind; to a glimpse through an unexpected portal into the Underground Railroad. This is a novel of fraught bonds and betrayal. What brings Wilde and Washington together ultimately tears them apart, leaving Washington to seek his true self in a world that denies his very existence. From the blistering cane fields of Barbados to the icy plains of the Canadian Arctic, from the mud-drowned streets of London to the eerie deserts of Morocco, *Washington Black* teems with all the strangeness of life. This inventive, electrifying novel asks, What is Freedom? And can a life salvaged from the ashes ever be made whole?

**Book Club - Looking Ahead:  
Monday, August 17, 2020, 1:00p**



## Hillcrest Church Office Hours

Starting Monday, July 6, 2020, the Church Office will be open on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10:00a 2:00p. We encourage anyone who would like to check out the changes to the church, or to drop off your offerings, to visit during that time. We also encourage everyone to park in the upper parking lot, or in the road, to come in through door 2 (near the kitchen), as an added step in helping keep our Hillcrest Child Care staff and kids healthy!

**Saturday, July 4 – Saturday, July 11:** Pastor Jill Meents will be away from the office, on Vacation. The church office will remain open that week.

**Monday, July 13 – Friday, July 17:** Kaite Knack (Communications Coordinator) will be out of the office on vacation. The office will be closed during this week.

## Our Church in Pictures



*Church Choir Practicing for July 12  
Drive-In Worship Service*



*Healthy Church Initiative Vision Team  
June Meeting*



*Social Get Together with Physical Distancing*

## Hillcrest United Methodist Church

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### 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 Church Staff:

Pastor Jill Meents Certified Lay Minister Jerry Jensen

Communications Coordinator: Kaite Knack

Director of Music: Nancy Miller

Organist/Pianist: Loryce Sivertson

Sunday School Teacher: Carm Tenhoff

Child Care Center Director: Bonnie Beyer

Child Care Staff: Kelsey Cornell, Riley McGuinness, Jessica Ronnei,  
Jennifer Contreras Sanchez, Jean Scott, Rosie Sola, Carla Sorensen,  
Lady Vasquez, Carla Zenk, Kristin Zumberge