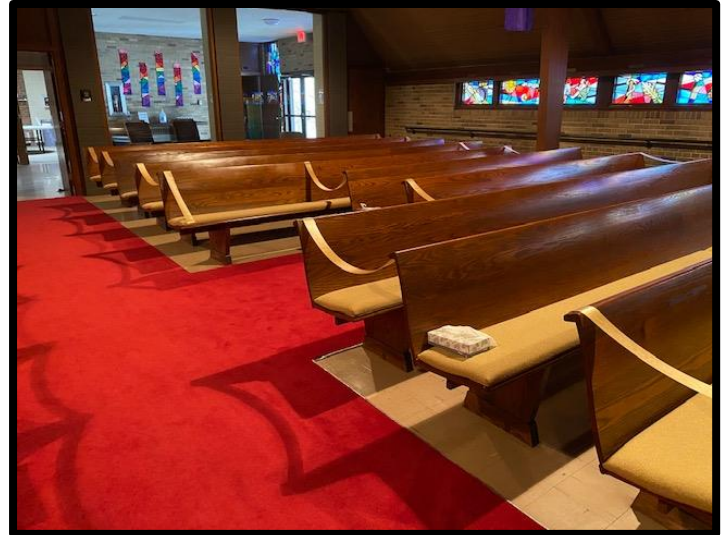


may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. We encourage you to take your temperature and remain home if it is 100.4 degrees or higher.

When you Arrive at Church:

- Please park in the WEST Parking Lot and use DOOR THREE to enter the building. DOOR TWO will be available for those who need it. Please use this door as needed only.
- Sanitation stations will be available at each door and before entering the sanctuary if you are in need of a mask or hand sanitizer. Ushers will be on hand to remind you of our requirements to wear a face mask at all times and to physically distance at least 6 feet at all times from non-household members.
- Ushers will direct you to your pew as you enter the sanctuary and only those pews that are not ribboned off can be used. **The coat racks are closed at this time. Please bring your coats with you to your pew.**



During Worship:

- We will Share the Peace from a distance. Be creative – a smile, a wave, etc.
- We recognize that weekly bulletins and our “Extra” insert are important to our church family. We will continue printing bulletins and extra’s and they will be available at the doors of the sanctuary each week. Ushers will wear gloves when passing out these bulletins, and we ask that you take your bulletin with you when you leave to cut down on debris left in the pews.
- We ask that you sit back and enjoy the music but refrain from singing as the Health experts do not recommend singing in inside places due to Covid-19 virus concerns.
- Offerings can be placed in a new wooden offering box located outside the center doors to the sanctuary. Online giving options are also listed on our website. **(A Special THANK YOU to a friend of Becky and Nathan Cahn for building our Offering Box!)**

Changes to Children’s Ministry:

- Children have the option to go to worship with their family or to join Carm Tenhoff in the **FELLOWSHIP HALL.**
- In the Sanctuary: children are asked to remain with their families for the entirety of the service. There will be no Children’s Moment at the front of the sanctuary during worship, nor will they be excused to join Carm. The Children’s Area in the Narthex is also closed.

- Sunday School Class: Please drop your children off in the **FELLOWSHIP HALL** prior to worship. Sibling sets will share a table, and all family units and the teacher will be distanced by six feet. **Everyone is required to wear a mask in the Fellowship Hall and to use hand sanitizer prior to entering.** Carm will wear gloves when handling papers and each table/family set will have their own designated writing utensils to use. Children will be picked up by parents or grandparents from the Fellowship Hall at the end of worship. **The Fellowship Hall will be disinfected and closed for 24 hours after each Sunday School Class.**

After Worship:

- Exiting will be done differently; as you leave, we will start with the farthest back pew first, followed by the next pew in front of that. Please stay in your pew until your row is next. Before leaving your pew, please be sure that everything that you brought into the pew (including bulletins) are removed as you leave.
- You are always invited to greet one another outside or in the commons area while maintaining physical distancing (6 feet apart). Before and after worship, we ask that you not congregate in the entry areas.

Special Notes:

- On Communion Sundays, a pre-packaged wafer and cup of juice will be handed out upon entry so as to avoid the need to go to the altar and keep safe distancing.
- Refreshments will not be served at this time. You are always welcome to bring your own covered coffee or other beverage. Individual water bottles will be available at the water fountain and narthex area as the drinking fountain will be closed.
- Restrooms will be open for use. However, we recommend that they be occupied by one or two people maximum at a time.

In Person – 9:30a in South Parking Lot

- Our Worship service will be broadcast over the radio station **107.5** to those who wish to join us in the SOUTH PARKING LOT. With this option, you will not be able to see the service, but you will be able to hear the service live and worship with us in real time at 9100 Russell Ave!
- Bulletins will not be handed out in the South Parking Lot, however, an electronic version (with words for the songs) will be uploaded to the website by 8:00a every Sunday morning for you to use.
- Those who are joining us in their vehicles are encouraged to keep their windows up so they can join us in song! Be sure to sing loud enough for those in the sanctuary to hear!
- When we start Live Streaming (see Online Option below for more information), you can use your smart phone to join our live stream worship service from the South Parking Lot as well!
- **Those who join us in this style of worship are asked to mail their weekly donations to the church or sign up for electronic giving through our website.**

Online Worship – Live Stream/YouTube Channel

- We encourage those who are vulnerable, elderly, or have other health concerns to worship with us online.
- Our Live Stream equipment has been ordered! Thank you to those who have generously given extra to get us this amazing capability! Unfortunately, we will not be live streaming our Worship Service on Sunday, November 1, 2020. The service will be recorded at 9:30a, in the sanctuary with the worship team, and then uploaded to our YouTube channel by Sunday afternoon. As we have been doing all summer, an email will be sent when the service has been uploaded to the channel, including a link to access the bulletin online.

- As soon as your Worship Team and Staff are ready to Live Stream, we will announce the week prior and have comprehensive instructions available. Once we start Live Streaming, you can join us at 9:30a to see the Worship live, or watch the recorded video of the service starting at 10:00a on our YouTube channel.

We are excited to expand our Worship Options, but recognize that due to the uncertain times, these options could change at a moment's notice. As changes are made, we will keep the congregation up to date via announcements, emails and phone calls. Thank you in joining together to keep this virus out of our building and to keep everyone safe and healthy. If you have any questions about these worship options, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Jill, Pastor Jerry, the HCI Vision Team and the **"Return to the Inside of 9100 Russell Ave." Committee** consisting of Jeff Sha, Barb Ottinger, Darcie Murdock, and Kay Young. These persons have worked together these past months to ensure our return to the indoor space of Hillcrest Church is as safe and healthy as possible for everyone in our church family. They are ready and welcome to address any of your questions or concerns!

From the Desks of Pastor Jill & Pastor Jerry

Things that have not changed... Our

- Love of Jesus Christ and our desire to follow him in faith
- Mission work outside our church walls
- Commitment to our spiritual formation and helping each other on our spiritual journey of becoming more Christ like
- Sunday worship services together, each and every Sunday
- Commitment to being a blessing place for our Hillcrest friends and family AND to those we have not yet met
- Availability of Pastors Jill and Jerry to talk with you one-on-one
- Becoming a Christ-centered group of believers
- Commitment to bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to as many people as possible

People Are the Church

The following persons have been lifted up in prayer in the month of October:

Barb **Berns**; Becky **Cahn's Mom** (recovering from emergency surgery & double pneumonia); Barb **Ermisch**; Linda **Fleming**; Dale **Grant** (Marlin Grant's brother, Lung Cancer); Gary **Grant** (Marlin Grant's brother, Agent Orange Parkinson's); Claudia **Hicks**; Dawn **Kreutz**; Marilyn **Kreutz**; Harlan **Mellem**; Ronin **Millette**; Ken **Olson** (diagnosed with TTR Cardiac Amyloidosis); Steve **Scherer**; Sherri **Slobodnik** (recovering from knee replacement surgery); Ruth **Walker**; Adrian **Washington**; Mark **Waters** (son of Barb Waters, colon cancer); Jim **Whiting** (Parkinson's disease); **Alex** (pediatric heart issues)

It's Easy to Submit a Request for Prayers!
 Call: Elinor Colebank (952) 977-9114

(OR) Email Lynne Scherer: limschere@iphouse.com

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



**Submit a
Prayer Request**



Financial Update

Help Support Hillcrest Church during the pandemic! We are still ministering to those in need, even as we worship safely! 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 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 Drive-In Worship Services! Ushers will be there to collect all offerings! We thank you for remembering Hillcrest Church during the pandemic!

As we near the end of 2020, please check your pledge commitment. All offerings for the 2020 budget & operating costs must be postmarked to the church by December 31, 2020. If your pledge needs to change for any reason, see Treasurer Lyman Demaray to adjust your giving pledge. Please prayerfully consider if you can go above and beyond what you have pledged, allowing us to continue the amazing work of Hillcrest Church into 2021!

Memorials for Gene Kretchmer

The Kretchmer Family has designated that all memorials given to the church for Gene Kretchmer will be used towards the windows fund. A special thank you to the family of Gene for helping us reach our financial goal for the new windows! If you have not given to the Memorial for Gene, it's not too late to give!

Live Streaming Worship

Thank you to all who have contributed or committed to supporting the Live Streaming upgrade. Through October 11th, we have commitments of \$13,840 with \$630 paid towards the commitments, plus an additional \$627 in one-time contributions. This is approaching half of the total investment, and we're only a couple months into it. This is an important upgrade to our A/V system to enable us to live stream the service from the worship space. I hope you had a chance to read the letter last month that described what live streaming is, and why it is important as we continue to become the blessing place. While the current pandemic has elevated the need for this capability, this will become a new way for anyone to experience worship at Hillcrest – whether you're someone who has attended all your life like myself, or those who we have yet to reach who are looking for a church community. I am hoping we're able to get the equipment installed in December. Please continue to prayerfully consider this opportunity. If you are also feeling called to help with the A/V ministry we will need additional assistance on Sundays. Please reach out to me if you have any questions about this initiative or wish to help, my email is m_demaray@comcast.net, phone/text is 952-237-8537

Blessings to you all, Mark Demaray

Coming Soon! Hillcrest Church 2021 Pledge Drive!

A special THANK YOU to Alison Roberts, who has committed to heading our 2021 Pledge Drive! More information will be coming soon, keep your eyes peeled for the first 2021 Pledge Drive Communication!

Outreach Update

Dear Hillcrest Members and Friends,

Your MEMO (Membership, Evangelism, Missions & Outreach) Committee has designated that the Christmas 2020 Offering will go towards "The Sheridan Story", a non-profit dedicated to combating food insecurity through students in public schools across Minnesota. In the recent months, "The Sheridan Story" has changed its name to "EVERY MEAL". The following information is from their website, www.everymeal.org:

“The COVID-19 pandemic continues to significantly disrupt all aspects of our community, especially for our children. Our network is responding! We’ve provided over 2,300,000 meals to children and families in the community since March 13. This spring, we increased our food output by 400%, delivering 100,000 meals a week to 31 school districts in Minnesota and western Wisconsin and other community partners on a weekly basis, reaching over 37% of all K-12 children in Minnesota. This summer, we continue to provide 100,000 meals a week to 140+ school and community locations. Food insecurity amongst children is expected to increase by more than 50 percent through December. This is one of the highest rates for child hunger in Minnesota in decades. Together, we can continue to be a source of nutritious food and hope for children and families in our community.”

We invite you to prayerfully consider how you can support “Every Meal” through our Christmas 2020 Offering. Watch for a special Christmas Offering letter and giving envelope arriving in December.

We Rejoice that Hillcrest Church raised \$1,000 to go to Gordon and Ardell Graner and their very important Missionary Work in the Dominican Republic! The Graner’s were scheduled to visit Hillcrest Church in the summer of 2020, but due to COVID, their visit will be rescheduled. From their September 2020 Newsletter: “Since the printing of our newsletter of February 2020, we have hosted two volunteer mission teams – 1 from Madison, Wisconsin and 1 from South Dakota. Our solar oven distribution has paused, allowing us ample time to focus on an evaluation of the last 5 years. Our shelter-in-home quarantine, with curfew, continues and is currently on day 161 (as of September 2020). In the light of the 2019 solar oven survey, we are examining our organization structure, our relationship with the *Iglesia Evangelica Dominicana*, and our theological base. We are prioritizing a deeper understanding of the communities we have reached. We thank you all for your continued support of our mission work!”

If you have any questions about the missions we support, or have had your heart touched by an organization we can support, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of the members of MEMO.

In gratitude for your generosity, The MEMO Team

(Arlene Ellingson, Zoe Koshir, Irene Olson, Dale Phelps, Sharla Rusk, Lynne Scherer (chair) & Kaite Knack (consultant))

Committee Meetings & Small Groups

Staff-Parish Relations Committee will meet in November. Chairperson, Kathy Roberts, has not set the time or date of the next meeting. Phone calls will be made as soon as the date is confirmed.

Book Club has not scheduled a meeting in November.

“**Unshakable Hope: Building Our Promises on God**” book study will continue through Mid-November, ending just before Advent. The next study will be Bible Based and led primarily by Pastor Jill Meents and Pastor Jerry Jensen. More information coming!

Looking Forward

Hanging of the Greens Worship Service

A Committee has started meeting to discuss how Hillcrest Church can continue their “Hanging of the Greens” Worship Service tradition, while still staying safe during COVID. While we know that there WILL be a service

dedicated to hanging of the greens, we are not sure exactly how that will look. As volunteers are needed to (possibly) record scriptures and readings, we will advertise across the board so you can participate, should you choose to! Any questions about the 2020 Hanging of the Greens Worship Service can be directed to Pastor Jill or Pastor Jerry.

Christmas Poinsettia's

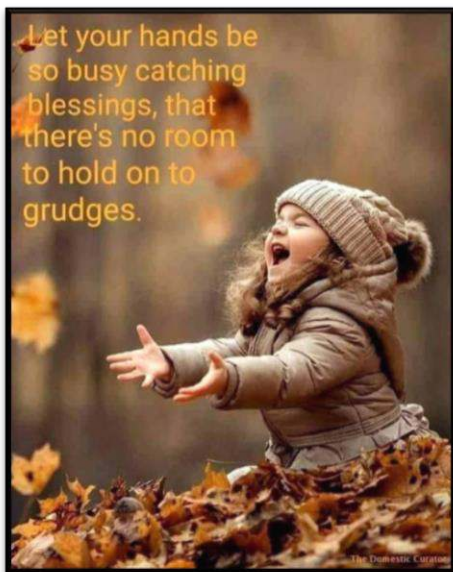
This year, as a gift to our congregation, Hillcrest United Methodist Church will purchase 30 Poinsettia plants to decorate the front of the sanctuary. **We are still going to dedicate those plants in honor or memory of our friends and family!** Please use the enclosed card to dedicate a plant, and to reserve a Poinsettia for delivery or pick-up during Advent.

2020 Advent Devotionals

Your MEMO Committee has picked the 2020 Advent Devotional, "And the Word Was God", inspiration from Henri J. M Nouwen. These Devotionals will be sent to all households the week of November 16 to ensure arrival before The First Sunday in Advent.

Our Church In Pictures

Loryce keeping warm during October 18, 2020 Drive-In worship! Through the magic of Mark, she was able to play inside and be heard outside!



Let your hands be so busy catching blessings, that there's no room to hold on to grudges.





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hillcrestbloomington@gmail.com
(952) 881-8601 Fax: (952) 888-2961
www.hillcrestmethodist.org
www.facebook.com/hillcrestmethodistchurch

How We Share our Gifts...

You will find us 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, 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 Monday

Hillcrest Church Staff:

Pastors: Jill Meents & 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, Jennifer Contreras Sanchez, Jean Scott, Rosie Sola, Carla Sorensen, Lady Vasquez, Carla Zenk, Kristin Zumberge