

THE SPIRE

April 2021



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Sunday, April 4, 2021

9:30a

Live Stream Easter
Worship on Hillcrest UMC
YouTube Channel

10:30a

Easter ZOOM Fellowship



From the Desk of Pastor Jill Meents

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. ⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” ~Revelation 21:1-4 (NLT)

Easter is the beginning of a story, a beautiful story told by the writer in the book of Revelation. Here they saw a new heaven and a new earth, the old had passed away. They heard a shout from the throne saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! God will live with them, and they will be his people, God himself with be with them.”

My questions are: Do we believe God lives among us? If so, how do we live out our belief? If not, how do we learn more about the beautiful story?

If we find ourselves asking the last question, I would like to encourage us to let our question be known. Let the question be known to our friends at Hillcrest and/or known to our family and friends, The God we serve works in mysterious and wonderful ways. We would love to share the beautiful story and introduce God into the lives of all his people.



People Are the Church

The Following Persons were lifted in prayer during the month of March 2021:

Barb **Berns**; Gavin **Cahn** (Becky Cahn’s 15 year old nephew, recent bladder reconstructive surgery, preparing for a kidney transplant); Elinor **Colebank**; Jean **DeMuth** (continues to recover from Shingles); Barb **Ermisch**; Linda **Fleming**; Dale **Grant** (Marlin Grant’s brother, lung cancer); Gary **Grant** (Marlin Grant’s brother, Agent Orange Parkinson’s Disease); Bob & Pat **Griffith** (following a move into Assisted Living at Masonic Homes); Kathy **Hilken** (recent hospitalization and transitional care, home recovering); Frank **Kisch** (recent surgery which required a longer hospital stay than anticipated, home recovering); Marilyn **Kreutz** (following the passing of Dawn Kreutz); Ronin **Millette**; Carol **Mundy** (Daughter of Sue & Wiley Smith, recovering from recent surgeries while preparing for another surgery in April); Marilyn & Dan **Sadloske** (following the passing of Dan’s wife, Pam); Steve **Scherer**; Sharon **Smith** (following the passing of her sister, Joyce); Ralph **Steward** (Wilma Steward’s nephew, Stage 4 Melanoma Cancer); Rita & Teryl **Tepper** (following the passing of David Tepper); Gordy **Thorold**

(Becky Cahn's step-dad, recovering from Covid Pneumonia); Barb **Van Winkle**; Adrian **Washington**; Mark **Waters** (son of Barb Waters, colon cancer); Jim **Whiting** (son of Luella Whiting, Parkinson's Disease); **Alex** (Pediatric Heart Concerns)

Those We Have Lost:

David **Tepper** (03/26/1947-03/07/2021)

David's life was celebrated on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at Fort Snelling Historic Chapel

Dawn **Kreutz** (07/14/1959-03/08/2021)

Dawn's life will be celebrated on July 11, 2021, 1:00p-5:00p, at Moir Park in Bloomington.

April Birthdays

John Amundson (2nd)	Taylor Thompson (3rd)	Rudy Koshir (4th)
Dennis Walsh (5th)	Doreen Renfrow (6th)	Wilma Steward (7th)
Bill Loughlin (9th)	Jennifer Demaray (11th)	Layla Sill (12th)
Mark Roberts (14th)	Kim Fuhrman (16th)	Abigail Ledbetter (16th)
Mike Slobodnik (16th)	Kay Young (16th)	Emily Millette (17th)
Shawn Loughlin (19th)		

April Anniversaries

Bob & Chris Brink (16th)

Thank You's!

Thank you so much to everyone that sent me a card when my sister passed away. Each and every card made me feel better and know so many people care. Hope to see everyone back in church soon. Thanks again to you all. ~Sharon Smith

Articles

2021 Easter Garden

The 2021 Easter Garden was purchased by Hillcrest United Methodist Church on behalf of our friends and family here and afar. There are a limited number of plants that are available for pick up, if you are interested. Contact Kaite in the main office to claim your free Easter Plant.

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



The 2021 Easter Garden was placed to the Glory and Honor of God in Loving Memory and Honor by the following people:

Joan Seha—in loving Memory of Bob Seha & Tom Seha

Marilyn Sadloske—in loving Memory of Pam Sadloske

Marlys Drebenstedt—in Loving Memory of Diane Gibson, who passed on March 8th.

First Quarter Financial Statements

Your First Quarter 2021 Financial Statements will be in the mail on April 5, 2021. If you do not receive your First Quarter Financial Statement, please see Kay Young.

2021 Directory Update

Your 2021 Hillcrest Church Phone Directory will be mailed on Wednesday, April 7, 2021. We have worked hard to ensure that all entries are correct and up to date, however, we anticipate some mistakes throughout! If your entry is not correct, please contact Kaite in the church office (952-881-8601 or hillcrestbloomington@gmail.com). All corrections will be printed in the May 2021 Spire. Thank you for your help in ensuring this document is as up to date as possible!

2021 Plant Sale

If you ordered a plant through the 2021 Plant Sale, they will be available for pick up on **Friday, May 7, 2021 1:00p-6:00p or Saturday, May 8, 2021 9:00a-12:00p**. Curbside pick up in the WEST Parking Lot. Any questions can be directed to Kay Young.

Committees & Small Groups

MEMO Committee Meeting

Saturday, April 10, 2021

10:00a Front Lawn of Hillcrest Church

Chance of Rain 50% or higher:

Zoom Meeting (Meeting ID: 897 5711 1747

Passcode: 037626)

See Kaite Knack with any questions.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

6:00p on ZOOM

See Kathy Roberts or David Ottinger with any questions.

Healthy Church Initiative Team Meeting

Sunday, April 18, 2021

11:00a on ZOOM

See David Ottinger with any questions

Faith Formation Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

5:00p on ZOOM

See Alison Roberts with any questions.

Worship Team Meeting

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

6:30p on ZOOM

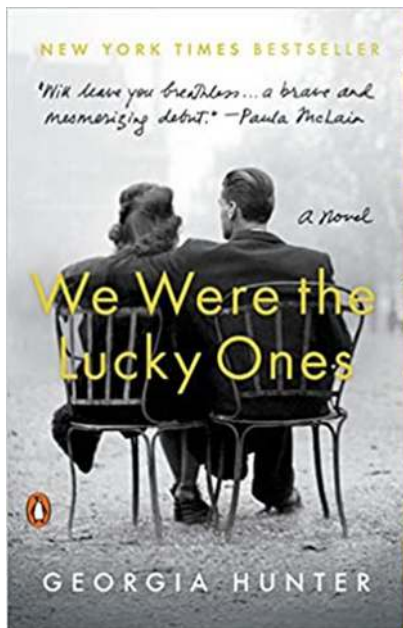
See Pastor Jill Meents with any questions.

Book Club

Monday, April 19, 2021 1:00p

Inspired by the incredible true story of one Jewish family separated at the start of World War II, determined to survive—and to reunite—We Were the Lucky Ones is a tribute to the triumph of hope and love against all odds. “Love in the face of global adversity? It couldn't be more timely.” —Glamour

It is the spring of 1939 and three generations of the Kurc family are doing their best to live normal lives, even as the shadow of war grows closer. The talk around the family Seder table is of



new babies and budding romance, not of the increasing hardships threatening Jews in their hometown of Radom, Poland. But soon the horrors overtaking Europe will become inescapable and the Kurcs will be flung to the far corners of the world, each desperately trying to navigate his or her own path to safety. As one sibling is forced into exile, another attempts to flee the continent, while others struggle to escape certain death, either by working grueling hours on empty stomachs in the factories of the ghetto or by hiding as gentiles in plain sight. Driven by an unwavering will to survive and by the fear that they may never see one another again, the Kurcs must rely on hope, ingenuity, and inner strength to persevere. An extraordinary, propulsive novel, *We Were the Lucky Ones* demonstrates how in the

face of the twentieth century's darkest moment, the human spirit can endure and even thrive.



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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
Communion First Sunday of Every Monday

Hillcrest Church Staff:

Pastor Jill Meents Pastor 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