



**A place where
faith matters**

The Connector

Sunday Morning

Worship at 8:30 a.m.
and 10 a.m.

Small groups and Bible studies
for all ages are available after each
service.

Childcare is provided for
infants to three-year-olds.



We are a Reconciling Congregation, welcoming all persons into full participation in the life of the congregation regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender identity, family configuration, racial or ethnic background, economic status, or mental or physical abilities. As we journey to the reconciliation of all persons as children of God, we celebrate our human family's diversity.

Offerings

I thank all of you for being this incredibly welcoming and supportive congregation. I truly feel blessed to be here with you, and to have my family as part of this church. You have shown much acceptance as I have unknowingly made changes in worship, and you have been patient as I have learned how ministry is done at Hillview.

My dream would not be to dismantle anything that has been happening at Hillview, but to build on the good that is already here. I love how open and welcoming our congregation is toward all people, and I am excited that people live out their faith in so many ways.

Helping to lead a Reconciling Congregation is a serious thing to me. It gives us a huge responsibility to be reconciling in everything we do as Christians, and as church people. When people come to Hillview because they are upset with another church, I will encourage them to speak with their pastor and attempt reconciliation. To label ourselves as Reconciling, means that everyone is welcome at Hillview, including those who are not Reconciling. We do not “tolerate” diversity. Tolerate is a negative word in that “to tolerate” implies disapproval. We welcome and celebrate diversity! All people are truly welcome here.

This is much harder to live authentically than a narrow definition of reconciling. Hillview is very good with encouraging outreach that supports people who “lean toward the left.” To be reconciling, not just with a capital “R,” means that we also support outreach efforts that don’t lean quite as far. We are a group of like-minded people in that we love Christ and desire to worship God. We are not a like-minded people when it comes to politics and even some of our theology. This diversity is uncomfortable at times, but it provides us with depth in our conversations, and challenges us to remember that we do not “have God in a box.”

I have heard from many at Hillview that this has always been an incredibly welcoming congregation, and that becoming a Reconciling Congregation was putting a label on something that already existed. Some have questioned why we even need a label and statement of welcome and inclusion. It is not enough to sit back and wait for people to come through our doors, and then to welcome them once they enter. People who have been excluded and wounded by other churches need a statement up front that lets them know this is a safe place to worship God. Many who have experienced judgment from Christians and other churches won’t even consider entering a church if they do not know that the church is Reconciling.

I thank you for doing the difficult work and becoming Reconciling three years ago. I look forward to working with you to understand even more fully what it means to be truly reconciling. It is an exciting ministry!

Grace and Peace,
Brenda



**Interfaith Conversations
Presented by Healing Our Future**

Sunday, August 24, 3-7 p.m.
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Join us for interfaith conversations
followed by a delicious vegetarian meal.
\$20/person—Reservations required by **August 15.**

*Reservation forms are available on the bulletin board next to the office
or on the community bulletin board in the hallway.
Questions? Call Debbie Mallis at 853-2740.*



Join us on Sunday, September 7, for Rally Day to officially kick off our Christian Education opportunities for the year for children, youth, and adults! We will have an Open House for ALL children, youth, and adult Sunday School classes at 11 a.m. followed by a picnic at 11:30! We will provide the main dish and drinks, so please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. There will be opportunities to register children and youth for Sunday School, sign up for new adult education classes, volunteer, and more! We will also have carnival-style games, prizes, treats, a bounce house, and other fun things! Look for more information on Sunday mornings and in the next *Connector*.



Lunch Bunch

The Hillview Lunch Bunch will meet at Louie's Pizza and Italian Restaurant (2500 E. Fairview, Meridian) at 11:30 a.m. on August 14. The sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Area, or call the church office (375-0392) if you would like to attend.



Community Meal

Come join us on August 27 for food, fellowship, and special music by Boise Straight Ahead! Entrée will be grilled burgers (beef, turkey and veggie burgers) and hot dogs. **NEEDED:** cooks, setup people, cleanup staff, and people to monitor and serve food. **FOOD NEEDS:** large salads, large side dishes, and desserts to serve **20 people**. See the sign-up sheet on the sign-up table in the Gathering Area.

If you have any questions, feel free to call Marilesta Nelson at 375-5116.



DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL OCCASION THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOUR HILLVIEW FAMILY? If you would like to provide flowers for the altar to honor a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, please contact Marilesta Nelson (375-5116) or Claudia in the church office (375-0392).



Bells, Bells, Bells!

Hey, there,

The Handbell Choir began rehearsing in July and will continue on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. We will meet in the sanctuary where the overflow chairs usually are. Everyone who wants to participate is welcome!!

See you then!!!!

Contact Sue Walch if you are interested - 208-514-5945.

From the Trustees

If anyone sees tasks that need to be done around the church grounds, such as weeding, trimming of shrubbery, or sweeping of walkways, please feel free to make some time to help us spruce up the church grounds. Please bring your gardening tools. Trash bags and brooms are available at the church if you see Claudia during church hours. Thank you!

Youth Group News

Summertime, and the living is—wet. Annika Linguist, Tyler and Megan Gallas, Colby Pittz, Christian Sprague and Kim Lamb got soaked at our annual water games. The clear winner of the evening's events was Jeff, who used his superior height to soak everyone with a cooler of water.



Calendar of Events

August

- 3: No Youth Group
- 10: 5:00-7:00 p.m. Minute-to-Win-It games at the Youth House.
- 17: No Youth Group
- 24: 5:00-7:00 p.m. Summer Funeral at the Youth house. We'll mourn summer's passing with some final games and ice cream Sundays.

Coming in September

- 7: 5:00-6:30 p.m. at the Youth House. Youth Group kickoff!!!!



It's almost back-to-school time! On Sunday, August 24, at the 8:30 and 10 a.m. services, there will be a special blessing of all school-aged children and their parents. Children and youth should bring along their school backpack (or notebook) for a special Backpack Blessing. During the service, children and youth will come forward during the Prayers of the People for a special moment of prayer and blessing.

Let's send our children and youth into the new school year assured of God's promises and our loving support! Be sure to join us and to include all of our young people in your prayers as they go back to school.

Prayer Partners

We are looking for *twenty (or more)* adults to serve as prayer partners for our children and youth during the upcoming school year! Volunteers are expected to pray weekly for their assigned child or youth, periodically send a card or note of encouragement to them to remind him/her you are praying, and speak to them on Sunday mornings. And holidays are great times to send a note too! If you are interested in serving as a prayer partner this year, please sign up on the table in the Gathering Area.

New Study Offered

"Confronting the Controversies" will be offered during the 11:10 Sunday School hour beginning September 14 and going through October 27. This seven-week class explores biblical perspectives on controversial issues including: The Separation of Church and State, Creation and Evolution in the Public Schools, The Death Penalty, Euthanasia, Prayer in Public Schools, Abortion, and Homosexuality. Look for more information about this class in the September *Connector* and at Rally Day on September 7.



Do you like to have fun? Do you like to share your faith with others in an exciting environment? Do you enjoy working with children? If you've answered yes to any of these questions, then say yes to teaching Sunday School this year! We need adults to teach our Preschool-2nd grade class, 3rd & 4th grade class, and 5th & 6th grade class each week. We are asking adults to commit to teaching a quarter (3 months) at a time, so pull out your calendars and see where God is calling you to work with our children. Our traditional Sunday School year runs from September to May. If you would like to teach, please fill out a Volunteer Form on the Christian Education bulletin board and return it to Maggie Edmondson, Minister of Congregational Life, by August 27. If you can't commit to a whole quarter or quarters, please sign up and volunteer to be a substitute teacher. We will hold a Safe Sanctuaries and Sunday School teacher training on Tuesday, September 2, at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, so please plan to attend this helpful (and required) training to give our Christian Education program a SUPER start!



We need adult volunteers to lead our Children's Church during the 8:30 and 10 a.m. worship services each week. Children's Church is for children ages 3 through 2nd grade and takes place immediately after Kids Time in Room 10. Each lesson is prepared for you with activities. Please sign up to volunteer for this wonderful ministry with our children by filling out a volunteer form and signing up for a month (or other period of time) at a time. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to have fun!



Our next Young Adult gathering will be a BBQ at Jael Prin's (942 Preakness Dr., Eagle) on Saturday, August 2, at 6 p.m. Bring something to put on the grill and a side dish or dessert to share. Remember, this group is open to all college-age young adults through age 35. Contact Maggie Edmondson with any questions or for more information.

The Congregational Care Committee is expanding our homebound visitation team. Homebound members rely on these visits to feel connected to Hillview and appreciate the connection these visits offer. Contact Maggie Edmondson, Minister of Congregational Life, to sign up for this wonderful and vital care ministry



“Back to School” sales are underway—time to pick up school supplies for students needing assistance. Hillview has assisted Whittier Elementary School for many years now and those generous donations have been much appreciated by the faculty and students. Whittier Elementary is a school that has a high number of low-income families. An estimated 40 of 50 children aren't able to purchase school supplies. Please bring items by August 24th to the Gathering Area and place them in the designated drop-off box.

These are the items needed. (Please donate new supplies.)

BACKPACKS (Note **BACKPACKS** are a number one priority!!!!)

Pencils, #2 lead

Pink erasers, large

Colored pencils

Pens, black or blue

Water color paint sets with brush

Washable markers

White school glue

Glue sticks

Loose leaf paper, wide or college-ruled

2-pocket folders without the clasp

1” binders

Rulers, 12” with metric scale

Large boxes of tissue

Hand sanitizer

Clorox wipes

16 or 24 ct box of crayons

Please Remember Hillview

The summer season is in full swing and I hope all of you are enjoying your summer, in spite of the heat and smoke. As you go about your summer activities, please remember Hillview.

The chart at the right shows where we stood as of June 30, 2014. The cross-hatched portion at the top of expenses represents our portion of Shared Ministry.

Hillview's income is less than it has been for the last three years and the gap has continued to grow each month since January. Please see the chart outside the office.

We are facing some unexpected expenses. One of these is because we have evidence that carpenter ants have joined Hillview. Fall is coming with its increased activities and . . .

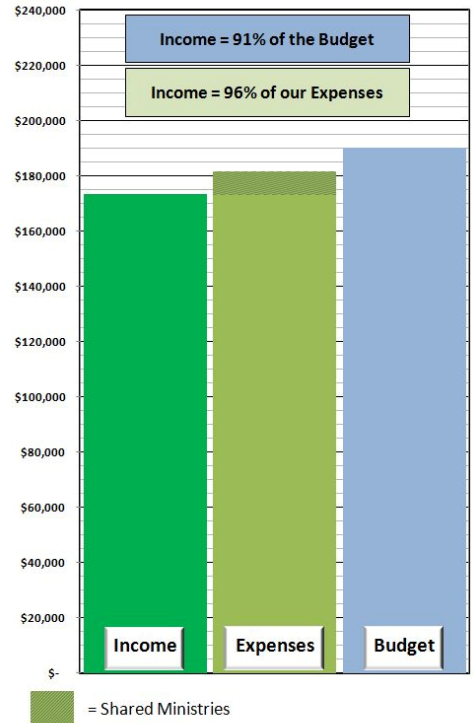
Fortunately, this year's expenses up to now have also been lower. This is partly due to reduced seasonal expenses (i.e., snow removal) and the staff and committees for being frugal. This has kept the income and expenses on about the same trend (to this point).

Please keep Hillview in your prayers and financial plans for the rest of the year.

Please check the bulletin board outside the office for these and other charts showing our financial status. If you have any questions or suggestions, **please** let me know.

Curtis Kron
Chair, Finance Team

2014
Receipts vs. Expenses vs. Budget
as of June 30



Asking not included in expenses: \$3,928

Church Development, Youth & Young Adult Ministries, BSU
Wesley Foundation, Hispanic Ministry, District Church Extension



Hillview UMW NEWS and EVENTS

Book Sale on Saturday, August 9: 9 a.m. to noon

Do you have books you've read and would like to donate them for a good cause? United Methodist Women are collecting used books—any kind, including children's—to sell as a fund-raiser for our local unit. We will use the money for sponsorships for ladies to attend United Methodist Women events, such as our fall retreat and Mission u. We will start the collection of books the week of August 3 and have a collection box in the Gathering Area for you to drop off your donations during church hours. We will be available to take your donations on Friday evening, 7 to 8 p.m. If you'd like to volunteer to help with the sale, please contact Judy Halverson at 327-0541.

Interfaith Sanctuary Tour

Tuesday, August 5, carpool from church at 9:30 a.m.

Interfaith Sanctuary is a shelter for people who are homeless in Boise. The shelter is open to men, women and families. Jayne Sorrel, the director, will give us a tour of the newly renovated building. We should be back to the church by 11 a.m. Contact Judy Halverson, 327-0541, for directions if you don't wish to carpool.

Looking for an uplifting book to read?

Everyone is invited to a book discussion of *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana: Five Sisters, One Remarkable Family, and the Woman Who Risked Everything to Keep Them Safe* by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon (2011, 288 pgs.) on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 10 a.m. in the Hillview library. You can locate this book in the Hillview UMW Reading Program section in the Hillview Library.

Domestic Violence Awareness

Hillview United Methodist Women's General Unit Meeting
Saturday, September 13, 10 a.m. Hillview library

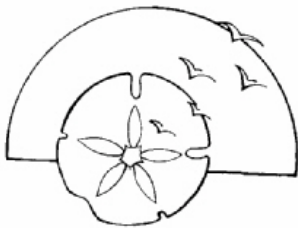
Join us to hear a speaker from the Family Justice Center about domestic violence. This violence against women occurs in all walks of life—we need to be educated and aware!
Child care will be provided. Contact Judy Halverson at 327-0541 for more information.

Reaching Out in Missions

United Methodist Women Sage District Annual Meeting
September 20, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Payette UMC, Payette, ID

Mark Your Calendars— Upcoming United Methodist Women Events:

August 9	Book Sale
August 12	Veteran Ladies Lunch
Sept. 13	General Unit Gathering—Domestic Violence
Sept. 20	Sage District Annual Meeting, Payette
Sept. 26-28	Women's Fall Retreat, Donnelly



FULL ESTEEM AHEAD!
Hillview's Fall Women's Retreat
September 26-28, Donnelly, ID

In the Bible, we are asked to love God, love our neighbor, and love ourselves. There's a lot of energy around the first two topics and less attention given to the latter: loving ourselves.

In her wonderfully loving, personal style, Sandy McDaniel, this year's retreat leader, addresses the process of strengthening your relationship with yourself. This weekend will assist the participant in identifying negative patterns, learning to communicate more clearly, and to live without the "shoulds" from their past.

Check out Sandy's experience on the Web at parentingsos.com or believeyouarebeautiful.com. Come and enjoy enriching study and worship, delicious food, wonderful fellowship and relaxing or energizing (your choice) free time activities. You can hike, tour McCall, work on a craft you bring, read, enjoy a hot tub or even take a nap. The retreat begins with supper Friday evening and ends with closing worship Sunday morning. This weekend provides a wonderful opportunity to nurture friendships, build new ones and return with more of you from which you serve God.

The cost is \$65. **SPACE IS LIMITED**, so register early. Location is a home in Crane Shores in Donnelly. Registration forms will be on the United Methodist Women's bulletin board by August 3.



Music Notes

By Leigh Falconer, Music Director

Thank you for the warm welcome I have received! I've already had the chance to work with many of you through Vacation Bible School and have been excited to see the musical talent throughout the church during worship.

While my plans for the upcoming year are still evolving, I wanted you to know that we will continue to be a music program with exciting opportunities for singers and instrumentalists: singing, playing, attending performances and supporting our music program. Come join in the fun! All of our ensembles welcome new members. Find the group that is right for you! Rehearsals will begin in early September, so now is a great time to consider joining one of the Hillview UMC ensembles. For general information or questions regarding the music program, please email me (leighfalconer@hotmail.com).

The adult choir will perform pieces from a wide repertoire that will include classics of the choral library, gospel and spirituals, and world choral compositions. We'll prepare weekly anthems and service music, and sing September through early June.

The children's choir will develop technique, music reading, and performance skills in an environment that nurtures self-confidence and teamwork. Rehearsals will be held Wednesdays (time to be determined). They will sing in worship times during the year.

The handbell ensemble will be led by Sue Walch. Rehearsals will be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays in August (beginning August 6) and will get underway "officially" on September 3. The bell ministry is a joyful and visual part of worship, and also a lot of fun!

I also look forward to working with the instrumentalists of the church in small ensembles that add yet another dimension and color to worship.

Hillview is a congregation rich with opportunities to participate in worship! I sincerely hope you'll consider becoming part of our music program.

Staff Article

We will be hearing from Hillview staff members each month, starting with **Claudia Flora**, our Administrative Assistant.

*Make new friends and keep the old.
One is like silver, the other gold.*

This old familiar poem came to mind recently. I just received an email about an upcoming high school reunion and after a bit of math came to realize it will be my 40th (how is that possible?). I also got a Facebook “friend request” from an old friend, and while going through some papers at home, I found a note from another friend that I keep finding and setting aside until I have more time to respond, and I just haven’t done more than that. You see, the note came with a box of slides, and in the note I was told that I get to decide what happens to this bit of “history” and memories. The sender did not look inside the box—she just identified it by the writing on the outside and thought of me. The pictures are of a Rainbow Girls installation and include one of the sender’s relatives, Sandy, who also was one of my very dear friends. The pictures were taken by my father, who served as our photographer for many years. Photography was one of his favorite hobbies. Sandy and I would be the same age if she were still alive. She died many years ago under tragic circumstances, and while I think of her often, I only told her parents that I would remember her not long after her passing, so no one else in her family knows how much I miss her.

This is one of those times where things just seem to line up—a high school reunion notice, a friend’s request (from someone who also knew Sandy), and finding the note again. I will let this be enough to move me past “meaning to” and in to actually “doing.” Hopefully, by the time you are reading this I will have made contact with at least a couple of old friends.

So far, this has been about old friends, and yet in the poem, new friends are mentioned as well. One of my favorite parts of my job is to meet and greet people who come into Hillview during the week. We have visitors and new faces here all the time. So many opportunities to make new friends. And while I did mention things lining up, well, here is one more thing. If you look on page 8, there is an invitation from Congregational Care to join the Visitation Team. This would be a perfect way to keep in touch with some of the once familiar faces of folks who are now homebound and also meet new people. I truly did not set out to write about another volunteer opportunity, so this is a God thing to be sure.

—Claudia Flora

Faith in Action

Opportunity for “Second Mile” Giving

Interfaith Sanctuary shelter's "Beat the Heat" program provides a respite from the hot weather for area homeless men, women and children. The shelter opens its doors at 6 p.m. each night when the heat is at its peak, granting an air-conditioned escape for those who have few opportunities to cool off at the end of the day. You can help support their effort by making cash donations to help cover additional electrical costs for air conditioning this time of year. Cash donations can be dropped off at the shelter, made directly online, or mailed to P.O. Box 9334, Boise, ID 83707.

The shelter also needs donations of bottled water, sunscreen, and caps with visors (like baseball caps) for adults and children.

Interfaith Sanctuary is also exploring plans for daytime cooling stations to be provided in 2015 in partnership with area faith groups and other local partners.

Thank You!

On behalf of the Boise Ronald McDonald House, a heartfelt “thank you” to all our Vacation Bible School families for the generous support. If you are interested in additional involvement with this important ministry, there is information on the Faith in Action bulletin board about volunteer opportunities. And don’t forget to save your “tabs” from pop-top cans. There is a container for them in the kitchen on the microwave.

Hillview’s First Fruits Gardens

The growing season is not over. If you are at the church for a meeting, study, or any reason, stop by the gardens (southwest of the Youth House behind the garden shed), and if you see something ready to be harvested, please do so. You can either take it for your own use, or put it in the refrigerator or on the First Fruits cart.

Our Church Staff

Pastor

Brenda Sene bsene@msn.com 503-267-2988

Minister of Congregational Life

Maggie Edmondson meg.edmondson@gmail.com 208-891-4385

Director of Technology and Communication

Jeff Thompson jeff.thompson@hillviewmethodist.org 208-830-5777

Music Director

Leigh Falconer leighfalconer@hotmail.com

Organist

Jerry Wagner

Pianist

Suzanne Walch scrappy1348@rocketmail.com 208-514-5945

Secretary

Claudia Flora claudia.flora@hillviewmethodist.org 208-375-0392

Youth Directors

Claire Chambers cilongpre@yahoo.com 208-761-7528

Jeff Thompson jeff.thompson@hillviewmethodist.org 208-830-5777

Custodian

Mariya Gavrilutsa

Nursery Director

Peggy Sheldon 208-340-8143

Flat Jesus Photo Challenge



Our favorite traveling friend is back this summer for more adventures! Using the prompts below, take Jesus with you and share your adventures and insights with your Hillview UMC family! Pick up your Flat Jesus and Photo Challenge card in the Gathering Area. Please email your photos to hillviewflatjesus@gmail.com

AND if you share your pictures on Facebook and/or Instagram, please use the tags #flatjesus #hillviewumc for us to follow you!

Care Notes

Please be sure to stop by the Care Notes display on the Congregational Care bulletin board to check out some of our new titles. Care Notes help people dealing with intensely emotional situations who are looking for concise, easy-to-read guidance and support. Each booklet offers strength, help, and healing for those who are hurting. If you have a need or know someone who could benefit from these Care Notes, please do not hesitate to pick one up and share this valuable information.

Dates to Remember

August 5: Interfaith Sanctuary Tour

August 9: UMW Book Sale

August 12: Lady Veterans Luncheon

August 14: Lunch Bunch

August 24: Interfaith Conversations

August 27: Community Meal

September 2: Safe Sanctuaries Training

September 4: Hillview Preschool Parent Orientation Night

September 7: Rally Day

**The Hillview Connector is
Published monthly by
Hillview United Methodist Church**



Like us on
Facebook

Hillview United Methodist Church
8525 Ustick Rd., Boise, ID 83704
208-375-0392

<http://www.hillviewmethodist.org>

Email : churchoffice@hillviewmethodist.org

Hours: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Mon.-Thurs.
9 a.m.-noon, Friday