



**A place where
faith matters**

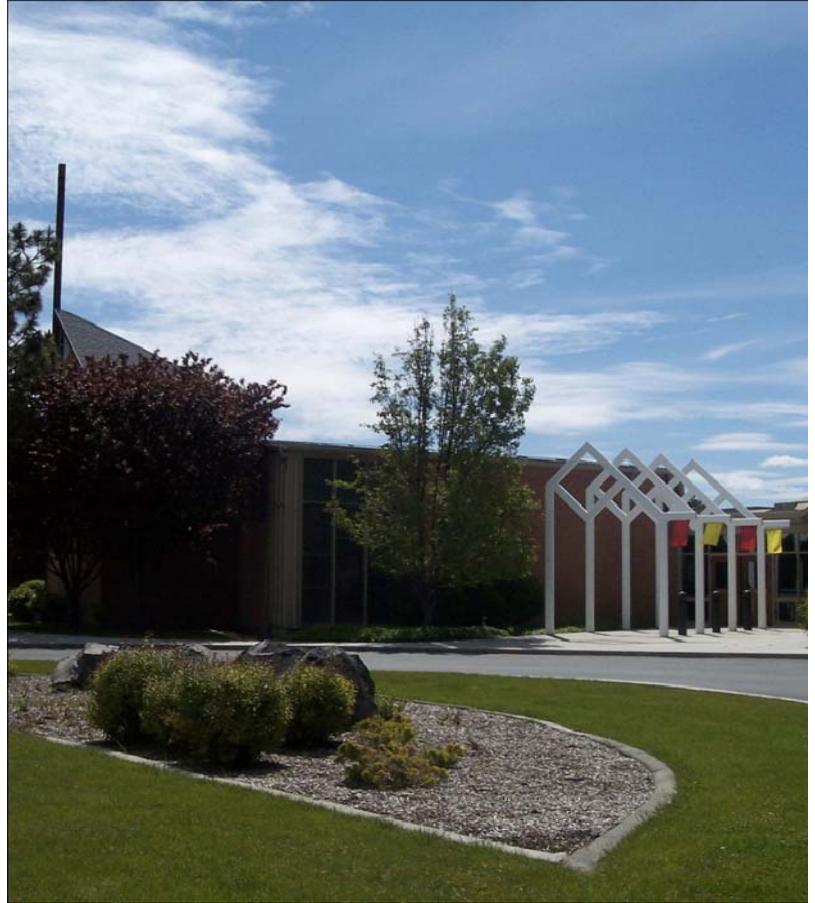
The Connector

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.

Random Musings from Pastor Barbara

It is my hope that, by now, everyone connected to Hillview is aware of the bishop's intention to appoint me to serve the United Methodist Church in Corvallis, Oregon, beginning July 1, 2014. I believe most of you are finding your way to accepting this news as part of what it means to be United Methodists. I want to do all I can to make this transition not simply a smooth one, but one that holds excitement and promise for us all.

Let me say a few important things:

Having served at Hillview for five years, I believe I have done what I do best in offering some teaching, some challenges, some vision and some downright cheerleading for this precious congregation. I am considered by our conference to be a pastor who leans very much to "the left of center." There are really just a handful of churches that might be as open to not just what I do best, but to hearing the Gospel preached through a deeply open-minded, open-hearted voice.

Consequently, it has been an ongoing conversation with District Superintendent Kim Fields, going back at least a few years, that I wanted to be considered when any of those congregations came into focus for a new pastor. Some such churches have come and gone because the timing was truly not right for Hillview. It is important for you to know this, because now the bishop, the cabinet, and I all agree that the timing is right and this appointment in Corvallis is a wonderful match as the last church I will serve before retirement. They are not only open to what I feel called to do, they very specifically asked for it!

We have been having such a remarkable experience together as pastor and congregation. I am not sure it would ever feel like the "right" time for me to leave. But when I tell you that I have done what I do, I am quite sincere. I believe a new pastor can continue to energize and help Hillview keep on its path and can bring focus in ways I may not even see.

It is my earnest prayer that each of you be open to this possibility. Bishop Hagiya, District Superintendent Kim Fields, and the appointive cabinet KNOW that Hillview is a healthy, dynamic, truly unique congregation and they have your interests at heart. We have had five years together because the Spirit of God moved in this appointive process and brought us together. Trust that the God of possibilities is moving again and always . . .

COMMUNITY MEAL



February Community Meal is on February 26. See the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area to see how you can become involved in this ministry. The entrée will be Pulled Pork. Salads, vegetable dishes, and desserts are needed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Marilesta Nelson (375-5116) or email her at nelsonm111@aol.com.

ALSO needed: Someone willing to head up the setup team. You must be able to lift the tables and have a flexible schedule. If you are interested, contact Marilesta (see above).

New Artwork in the Gathering Area

Three beautiful watercolor paintings by Linda Sherrets now adorn our Gathering Area. Two of them are floral paintings ("My Petunias" and "A Poinsettia from Edwards Greenhouse"), and the largest one is an idyllic pastoral scene entitled "Sheep in His Pasture," which is displayed at the east entrance of the church.

After Linda retired from teaching, she wanted to try watercolor painting and began lessons with Roland Giampaoli and Will Nelson. She is now a 14-year member of the Idaho Watercolor Society and shows her work at the Capitol Rotunda and other watercolor events. She has won awards at the Western Idaho Fair and the Nampa Art Guild, and her "Mountain Bluebird" was chosen as a St. Luke's Christmas card.

As you can see, Linda loves to paint the things of nature and has a passion for painting flowers and animals, especially dogs, cats, and birds.



Hillview Preschool registration for the 2014 /2015 school year is the week of March 3. Church members may register children on March 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The preschool offers classes for 3- and 4-year-olds. Morning and afternoon sessions are available. One morning a week a "Time for 2's" class is offered. An adult must accompany the 2-year-old to this class. For more information on classes and registration, please call the preschool office (377-9280) or email hillview.preschool@hillviewmethodist.org.

February 2014 Youth News



Coming February 2nd ... The Souper Bowl of Caring! Following both the 8:30 and 10:00 services, youth will be available at the doors to collect your donations in their soup pots. So start saving your change (though bills and checks are fine too)! Although this is a nationwide even in its 23rd year, **all the money we raise goes to the Community Ministry Center RIGHT HERE in Boise.** Last year we raised \$340. Can we beat that?

February 8th, 2 p.m.. Mission Trip Stockholders' Celebration...finally rescheduled. Did you help our youth group go on the 2013 summer mission trip by purchasing stock? Did you pray for our youth and their leaders before, during or after the trip? Are you just curious about what 5 teens and their 2 youth leaders did in Portland Oregon during the last week of July this summer? Then we want you to join us on for a presentation of our trip. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Claire Chambers at 761-7528 by February 6th.

February Schedule

2nd 8:45 a.m. Souperbowl of Caring!!! (breakfast provided-meet in the youth house). Repeats at 10:45. Wear your youth shirts. Don't have a youth shirt? Wear something red.

4:00 Superbowl Party at the Youth House. Last name A-L bring drinks to share, M-Z bring snacks. We'll be done when the game is over.

8th 2:00 p.m. Ballantyne. Mission Trip stock holders meeting! All youth are invited to attend. Come at 1 if you would like to help us set up.

9th 5:00-6:30 p.m. At the Youth House. Regular Youth Group!
AT long last.... Food, fun, devotionals.

16th 5:00-6:30 p.m. At the Youth House. Mini talent show. What are you good at? Bring your instrument, artwork, etc.

23rd 4:00-4:45 p.m.. Youth Council. Upstairs in the Sunday school room.
5:00-6:30 p.m. At the Youth House. Regular Youth Group!

Hillview's Congregational Care Ministries provide care, concern, prayer, and support for families and individuals at various stages, places, and circumstances of life. The Congregational Care Team is here to respond to the needs of the congregation and to engage the church in the ongoing spiritual, physical, emotional, and relational expressions of living faithfully within the Body of Christ.

Visitation—Hillview extends friendship and compassion through its Care Ministries. Under the supervision of Maggie Edmondson, Minister of Congregational Life, we strive to create meaningful relationships with each person we meet, whether they are homebound members, in the hospital, in an assisted living facility, or simply in need of pastoral care. If you or someone you know has a care need, please contact the church office.

Please add these names of military personnel to the list of those for whom we pray, as they are away from family and friends serving their country: **Jackson Irish, Monterey, CA; Kevin Custer, USMC; Dustin Soper; Cara Hammond, Air Force, Mississippi; Staff Sgt. Bryan Koepl, Army, Goodfellow AFB, Texas; Seaman Christina Golovanoff, USCGC Mellon based out of Seattle.**

To keep this listing of military personnel as up to date as possible, family members may contact the church office at 375-0392 or churchoffice@hillviewmethodist.org with information such as name, branch of service, and where serving.



Idaho Legislative Event February 23 and 24, 2014 Boise, ID

The Idaho Legislative Event offers an opportunity for you to visit the Capitol to meet your legislators, attend legislative sessions, and learn about legislation that affects women and children. If you are not familiar with the legislative process in Idaho, you need to attend this event to learn how you can be an effective advocate for social and economic justice!

February 23, Sunday sessions, 3:30 p.m., at Boise First United Methodist Church focuses on the legislative process, including navigating the Legislature website to track legislation.

5:00 p.m.-- Sunday dinner with the Friendship Feast

6:00 p.m.-- Lee Flinn, Advocacy Director for AARP, will advise us on talking effectively to legislators.

Another speaker will give us updates on bills of interest for us to follow.

February 24, Monday morning at the Capitol building, to attend committee meetings and the sessions of the House and Senate.

12 noon--We will meet our legislators for lunch at the First Presbyterian Church. You may take a guided tour of the Capitol after lunch and attend committee meetings.

Registration fee is \$20 for the two-day event; \$10 for Sunday attendance and \$10 for Monday attendance. This event is sponsored by United Methodist Women but everyone—men, women and youth—are invited to attend! To register, pick up a registration form posted on the UMW bulletin board in the Ballantyne hallway. Contact Karen McAlister, 342-5315, for more information.

Welcome to Our Newest Hillview Members

A warm Hillview welcome to the following persons who joined the Hillview family on January 19: Sandy McDaniel, Pam Linger, and Barbara Jackson, whose husband Allen comes to us as retired clergy. You can get acquainted with them in the March newsletter.

Hillview “Field Trip” Four Rivers Cultural Center. Ontario, Oregon Tuesday, February 18; Carpool at 12:30 p.m. from Hillview UMC

“I Want the Wide American Earth”--Asian-American Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit

 In this first exhibition of its kind, the Smithsonian celebrates Asian-Pacific American history across a multitude of diverse cultures and explores how Asian-Pacific Americans have shaped and been shaped by the course of the nation’s history. **EVERYONE (men and women)** is invited to join Lydia Circle for this “field trip”! For information, contact Judy Halverson at 327-0541.

VALENTINE CARE PACKAGES—February 9th

We have about 25 young adults/military servicemen who will receive Valentine Care Packages from Hillview. It’s not too late to add a name! Please look over the donation/volunteer needs: *Homemade cookies!* Please pre-wrap the cookies (small sandwich bags work well) in groups of 3 cookies/bag. **Please bring the cookies to the church kitchen identified as “Care Pkg.” by Sunday, Feb.9.** *Money donations!* To help pay for postage for “away” packages, a collection can is on the sign-up table in the Gathering Area of the church on Sundays. Volunteers needed: Assembling the care packages will be on Sunday, Feb. 9, after Sunday School, at noon, in Ballantyne Hall. Contact Judy Halverson at 327-0541 or judybhalserson@gmail.com.

Music and More

Music and More will return on Wednesday, March 12, at 6 p.m. in Room 10. This spring we will be singing on Palm Sunday, playing the chimes on Mother’s Day, and liturgical dancing on Pentecost. All children and youth are invited to participate in this wonderful program. Please contact Maggie Edmondson or Sue Walch with any questions or for more information.

New “Basics” Class in February

This four-part series offers an opportunity to explore United Methodist understandings of the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. Newcomers to Hillview as well as longer-standing United Methodists will experience new insights and appreciation for these significant celebrations in the Church.

February 2: “Intentions for and Beliefs about Baptism”

February 9: “Baptism: By Water and the Spirit—Meaning and Experience”

February 16: “This Holy Mystery: Communion in Christian Tradition and United Methodist Heritage”

February 23: “Invitation to the Table—Meaning and Experience”

Questions? Call Janine Watkins, 336-1991, or Maggie Edmondson, 375-0392.

Living the Questions on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. begins February 4 for a new 7-week study: **Painting The Stars: Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith**. This DVD-based study explores evolutionary Christian spirituality with some of the top evolutionary theologians and progressive thinkers such as Michael Dowd, Rachel Held Evans, Matthew Fox and John Shelby Spong. Everyone is welcome. Contact Gayle Woods or Michelle Ward for questions or more information.



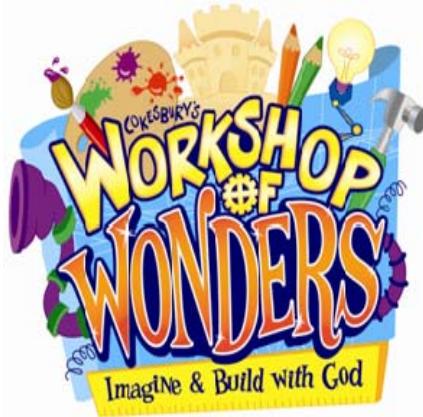
February 20, 5:30 p.m.

Pastor Barbara leads a free-wheeling theological conversation over sandwiches at Cobby’s (4348 Chinden) on the third Thursday of each month. This is a continuation of all the Freeing Theology classes she has offered but is open to any and all who are willing to try speaking about God and their faith without relying on “church” words. No sign-up necessary. Just come and enjoy! Questions? Call Pastor Barbara (991-8464).

MYMU—Methodist Youth Moving Up

MYMU will meet on Sunday, February 9, from noon until 2 p.m. We will begin our study on *What it Means to Be a United Methodist*. We will also eat lunch and play games.

All 3rd-6th graders are invited to join us for this group of their very own. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of Room 10, which lets Maggie know if you will be there, so we have enough food for lunch.



Save the date! Vacation Bible School is June 23-27. Grab a hammer, find a paintbrush, and put on your thinking cap! At Cokesbury's *Workshop of Wonders* (WOW) VBS, children will discover how to imagine and build with God! At the *Workshop of Wonders*, discover how the ordinary becomes extraordinary with God.

Experience the love of Jesus. Start an adventure. Use your imagination and creativity to build your faith. Meet people from the Bible who used what they had to produce something amazing with God. Use your heart, mind, and imagination to participate in the creative life of God, the one who works wonders!

Online registration is available now for Vacation Bible School for Preschool (3 and 4 year olds)-5th Grade and Volunteers at <http://2014.cokesburyvbs.com/HillviewUMC>. Paper forms are available in the Church Office and on the Christian Education Bulletin Board.

LGBT Christian Connection

The LGBT Christian Connection meets every second and fourth Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Hillview church library. Please join us or pass this invitation on to someone you know who might be interested in joining us.



NEWS and EVENTS

United Methodist Women Sage District's
2014 Every Member Enrichment Event
March 8, Southside Blvd. UMC, Nampa, ID



Registration 9:30 a.m. —Program 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. —\$8 Registration fee, includes lunch

The Sojourners Among Us

Who are the sojourners in our communities? What are the challenges facing them today? How are we to treat sojourners? How can we advocate and be in service with sojourners? Come to the EMEE to study, reflect and put love in action for those in our Idaho and Oregon communities who are sojourners among us.

Guest speakers will be Rev. Jorge Rodriquez of the Wilder Hispanic Ministry and ladies from his congregation. We will be collecting children and youth books for this Hispanic ministry. To register by March 1, contact Judy Halverson at 327-0541 or judybhalserson@gmail.com.

Friends of Phoebe Meets February 5 at 7 p.m.

Ladies age 50 and under are invited to Friends of Phoebe gathering in the Hillview kitchen for fellowship and to discuss plans for this women's ministry. Child care is available. For more information, contact Lori Myers-Linquist at 562-7991 or linguist.idaho@hotmail.com.

UMW Reading Program Book Report

Awake : Doing a World of Good One Person at a Time. Noel Brewer Yeatts. 2012. 176p. Baker Books.

This compelling, story-driven book urges readers to open their eyes to the needs of a hurting world. It is a gripping, to-the-point challenge to get involved in realistic, positive change--one life at a time. Building on more than twenty years of experience in humanitarian relief efforts and community development around the world, author Noel Brewer Yeatts urges readers to realize that working to build a better world is not about guilt, handouts, or charity. It is about justice, compassion, and personal investment. She encourages readers to live a life fully awake . . . and doing a world of good. UMW Reading Program Category: Education for Mission 2014.

Contact Lori Myers-Linguist to borrow this book or to learn about this Reading Program: 562-7991 or linguist.idaho@hotmail.com.

Mark Your Calendars - Upcoming United Methodist Women Events:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Feb. 1 | Informational Meeting VIM Trip to Salt Lake City UMCOR Depot
General Unit Meeting—How's <u>Your</u> Heart? |
| Feb. 9 | Valentine Care Packages |
| Feb. 18 | Field Trip to Four Rivers Cultural Center, Asian-American Exhibit |
| Feb. 23 & 24 | Idaho Legislative Event |
| March 8 | Every Member Enrichment Event, Southside Blvd. UMC, Nampa |
| March 15 | Women's One-Day Retreat, Hillview UMC |
| May 3 | Spring Luncheon |
| May 4-10 | Mission Trip to Salt Lake City UMCOR Depot |



Music Notes

Welcome!

We were pleased to have three new singers join the **Chancel Choir** for the Advent/Christmas season and indicate their interest in participating in the ongoing music ministry.

Welcome to:

Amory Zucchero and **Aaron Fretwell** who are active members of our Youth Group.

Nerissa Armstrong is a middle school teacher. Her husband is in the Navy and stationed in eastern Africa. He is scheduled to finish his tour of duty there in April and plans to join Nerissa to help support the worship ministry. They have four boys.

Music is an important element of our Sunday worship services and we always welcome new members to our teams of singers, instrumentalists, and handbell ringers. Previous experience is not necessary. Members are eager to encourage and help equip.

REHEARSALS: (sanctuary)

Rhapsody Ringers	6:00 p.m.	Wednesday
Chancel Choir	7:15 p.m.	Wednesday
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday
Hillview Instruments	9:15 a.m.	Sunday

Gene Lubiens, Music Director

Women's One-Day Retreat

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED

Saturday, March 15, 8:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Hillview UMC

“The Gift and Practice of Discernment”

- Do I make a decision and then invite God to join me in what I've decided?
- Do I even consider God's interest, presence, and participation in my decision?
- Do I only call on God when my decision doesn't work?
- What steps do I take to make decisions?



Join us for a one-day retreat to explore the answers to these questions about how we make decisions. Janine Watkins will lead us in the process of discernment so that we can use this wonderful gift and practice of discernment in our lives.

All women and older teens are invited to attend our retreat. Bring your sack lunch or order a box lunch from Honey-Baked Ham (order form on back of the registration form). Registration forms are located on the United Methodist Women's bulletin board in the Ballantyne hallway or download it from Hillview UMC's website. Deadline for registration is March 9. Registration fee is \$6 (if you bring your own lunch) or \$15 (includes box lunch from Honey-Baked Ham). Child care can be provided with arrangements by March 9. Contact person: Judy Halverson, 327-0541, or judybhalverson@gmail.com.



INFORMATION MEETING—February 1 at 9 a.m. VOLUNTEER IN MISSION TRIP - UMCOR WEST DEPOT

Would you like to join the Volunteer In Mission Hillview Team volunteering at the UMCOR West Depot in Salt Lake City, May 4 through May 10? Come to this information meeting at Hillview, Room 11, on Feb. 1 at 9 a.m. to find out the details about this mission project trip. UMCOR West Depot depends upon volunteers to do the “quality control” for the various UMCOR Kits that are sent all over the world and in the USA. If you enjoy sewing, there is a sewing room for school kit bags and layette outfits to be sewn. Can't stand for too long? No problem. There are stools at the sorting tables for you. What is the cost? We are hoping that we can keep the cost down to less than \$300 per volunteer.

If you are unable to attend this information meeting on Feb. 1 but are interested in joining the Volunteer in Mission Team, please contact Judy Halverson, 327-0541, or judybhalverson@gmail.com.

Poinsettia List 2013

Here are a few names that were accidentally omitted from the list in last month's newsletter:

Lois J. Hanson in memory of my mother and father, Leona and Leonard Hanson

Joe and Betsy Baughman in honor of Sterling A. Stinger

Clayton and Lucy Hanson in memory of our parents

Ethyl Minnis in honor of Hillview acolytes

Woods/Chastain families in memory of Cameron(Yoshi) Pitkin and Curt Naeve

Marcia Belcheir in memory of Tg Belcheir

WIM Presents Adopt-A-Highway!

WIM has chosen Adopt-A-Highway as a way to be a welcoming, inviting church. This will get the Hillview name out into the community in a new fun way! We will be adopting a 2-mile stretch of Hill Road between Hwy. 55 and Gary Lane. This is a 2-year commitment on our part as a church, and we agree to pick up trash and other debris four times a year.

In 2008, 54 groups participated in ACHD's Adopt-a-Highway program. There were 65 cleanup events and 15,580 pounds of debris were collected. There are 172 miles of roadway in the program.

This is going to be a fun project! If you have any questions, please call Dawn Phipps at 713-1414.

Alternative Christmas Gifts

Hillview's response to the Alternative Christmas Gifts project this year was amazing! More than \$2,900 was contributed toward scholarships for school children in Honduras. Interfaith Sanctuary Housing Services will receive \$915, and Hillview Camperships received \$470. These projects were selected by the Faith in Action Team in keeping with our tenets—an attempt to live into our Christian faith by “bringing help and hope to those people who struggle” (from Hillview's Tenet 9). So, on behalf of just a few of those who struggle, THANK YOU!

Lunch Bunch



The Hillview Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. on February 13 at Johnny Carino's (3551 E. Fairview, Meridian). The sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Area, or call the church office (375-0392) if you would like to attend.



Have you taken photos at church or at other Hillview events during the past year? If so, put them on a CD, label it, and bring it to the church office. We are trying to keep our photo archives up to date.

Faith in Action

Mid-Year School Supplies

Hillview has donated school supplies to Whittier Elementary School for many years, usually at the beginning of the school year and at Christmas break. Past generous donations have been greatly appreciated by faculty and students. The elementary school has a high number of low-income families, and an estimated 40 to 50 children aren't able to purchase school supplies.

Please bring the following school supplies to the Gathering Area by Sunday, March 9, and place them in the designated drop-off box.

Items needed:

Glue sticks

Pencils

Spiral notebooks (college-ruled and wide-ruled)

2-pocket folders without the clasp

1" binders

Hand sanitizer

Clorox wipes

Saturday Lunch Program

On the third Saturday of each month four to five volunteers from Hillview United Methodist Church pack sack lunches for neighbors in need at the Whitney United Methodist Church. The number of lunches we prepare can vary from 50 to 100 or more. Sack lunches contain a sandwich, milk, often yogurt, veggies, fruit and a snack item. Most of the contents are donations from private individuals, bakeries and stores, such as Winco. Whitney purchases other items from Cash & Carry, which comes out of their budget.

We begin preparing at 10 a.m. and including cleaning the work area, we usually finish before 1 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome and needed. There's a sign-up sheet in our church Gathering Area. For any questions, please call Ethyl Minnis at 258-4113.

Our Church Staff

Pastor

Barbara Nixon revbabs2000@gmail.com 991-8464 cell

Minister of Congregational Life

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

Director of Music

Gene Lubiens glubiens@hotmail.com 208-989-5981

Director of Technology and Communication

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

Organist/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

Donations have been made to Hillview's Memorial Fund in memory of James B. Abbott, Curtis Naeve, and Frances Wacker.

About the pastoral appointment process

When our bishop moves a pastor, as Pastor Barbara is now being moved, a process of discernment is under way. This includes deep prayer and reflection about who will fill that pastor's shoes. Taken into consideration is both what a church is specifically looking for in a pastor and which pastors might be available to serve. (This is not necessarily limited to only pastors in our conference.) In this process, a church's district superintendent (in our case, Kim Fields) consults carefully with the Staff/ Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) to get the best possible feel for the needs of a congregation. He has been receiving written material from our church following our leadership event on January 12, and he will have met with the SPRC by the end of this month for more input. Any candidate selected by the bishop will be interviewed by the SPRC. If there are no "red flags" from that process that would stand in the way of the appointment, an announcement is made in church at the soonest possible opportunity.

SPRC members are: Charlie Pegan (chair), Ron Halverson (lay leader), Ron Tucker, Hope Franz, Linda Porter, Kristen Guyon, Brian O'Morrow, Ruth McGough, Marcia Belchier, and Troy Clovis.

Dates to Remember

February 1: UMW General Meeting

February 2: Superbowl of Caring

February 4: Living the Questions (new study begins)

February 8: Youth Mission Trip Stockholders Meeting

February 9: Valentine's Packages

February 14: Valentine's Day Extravaganza

February 18: Field Trip to Four Corners Cultural Center

February 26: Community Meal

March 2: Lenten Fair

March 3 to 6: Hillview Preschool Registration

March 15: Women's One-Day Retreat

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



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