

JANUARY 2014



**A place where
faith matters**

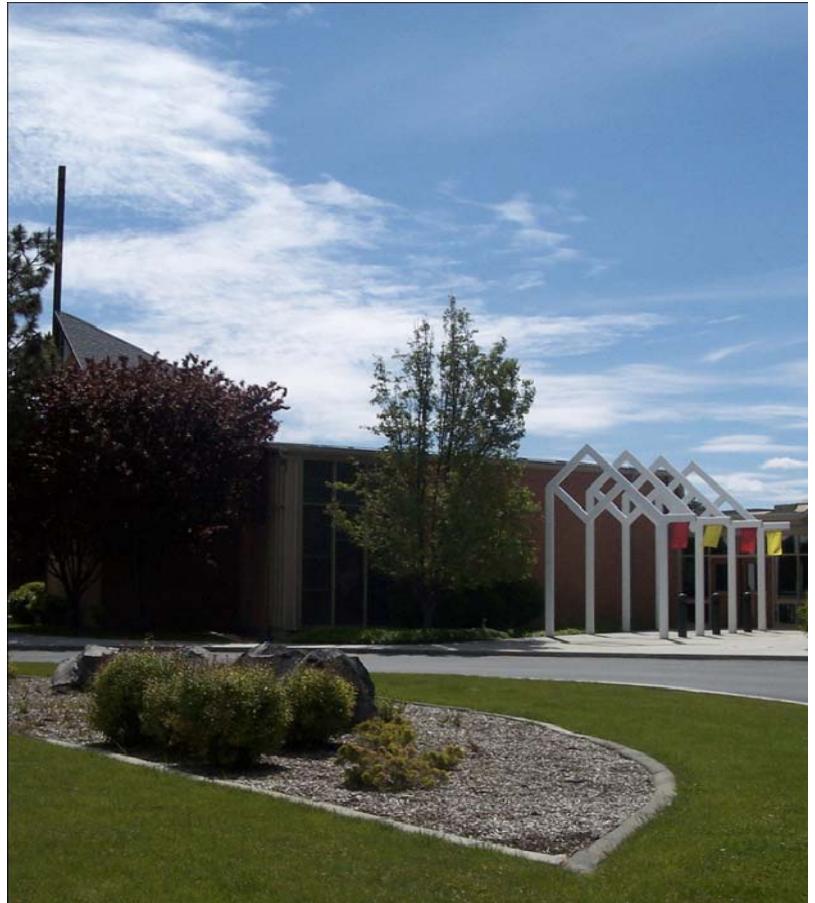
The Connector

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

Very soon a new year will stretch before us. People like to mark this occasion with parties to attend, bowl games to watch, and, of course, New Year's Resolutions to make. I am not one to get excited about these various traditions, but I do like the idea of a fresh start—a new beginning.

A new beginning can happen annually, but I get the same little rush at the beginning of the week, or first thing in the morning when a new day dawns. I KNOW some of what to expect and can plan for it. But there is much I do not know and can't control. Life is full of surprises, year to year, day to day, moment to moment. The known and unknown ingredients in life make it beautiful and joyful and sometimes challenging and painful.

This is where our faith comes in. Trusting God with our future requires us to see how God is here THIS moment, loving us, holding us, filling us. Trusting God with our future requires us to see how God has not only done this in the past, but how God has offered grace and care when we stumbled or lost our way.

God offers us all a fresh start time and time again—as a new year begins, a new week unfolds, a new day dawns. So we can live boldly and freely with grateful hearts, knowing God fills every moment.

Joyous New Year!

Join Us at the Add the Words Rally!



Mark Saturday, January 11, on your calendar and plan to be present at the Idaho Statehouse steps between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. to show your support for adding the words “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” to the Idaho Human Rights Act. Why is this important? The Idaho Legislature has ignored this for seven sessions, refusing to even hold a public hearing. People in Idaho are living in fear and being harmed every day while the Legislature refuses to act.

As a Reconciling Congregation, we need to not only welcome all people but stand against discrimination. This justice issue affects people in our own congregation. Pastor Barbara has encouraged us to go out into the world and spread love as Jesus did. Here is your opportunity to let our legislators know that this is important to you. It is essential to have a large turnout to make an impression. We hope to have every able-bodied Hillview member and friend there to stand with our church banner. We are now part of the Interfaith Equality Coalition and will be standing with other faith communities to tell our legislators to add the words.

An Interfaith Gathering for Reflections on Women
Thursday, January 16, 7:00 p.m.
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
6200 Garrett Street, Garden City, ID 83714



Come share in an hour of songs, words, sacred texts, and simple rituals from throughout our interfaith community. Light refreshments following.
Questions? Call Rev. Barbara Nixon (991-8464).

Sponsored by Healing Our Future



COMMUNITY MEAL



COMMUNITY MEAL is on January 29. The entrée will be lasagna. We will need help with setup, help during the meal, and cleanup as well as food needs. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area to sign up. **This Ministry needs YOU!** If you have any questions, feel free to call Community Meal Coordinator Marilesta Nelson at 375-5116.

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. E-mail her at nelsonm111@aol.com or call her at 375-5116.

Dear Congregation of Hillview United Methodist Church,

What a gift you have given to us as participants in the “Fit and Fall-Proof” fitness program for seniors! Twice weekly throughout the previous several years you have offered your church for many seniors to socialize and exercise together. This is a valued opportunity for which we are so grateful. We always feel so welcome by your staff.

The facility has become so comfortable for us, thanks to your generosity and welcoming spirit. This opportunity to share time together and complete our objectives would not be possible without your offering of time and space.

Please accept our appreciation for the many kindnesses you have offered during this time. Blessings abound for us as we continue our program at Hillview UMC, thanks to you.

With gratitude,

On behalf of “Fit and Fall-Proof” Class Participants,

Ann Ritter, instructor

Youth News



Hillview UMC and the 16th Annual Veterans Foot Locker Drive!

The men and women of Hillview United Methodist Church again supported our heroes with the Veterans Foot Locker Drive. Coordinated by the Youth Group, the Drive resulted in **425** items being donated to the Idaho State Veterans Home! These gifts will go not only to the 164 vets in the Idaho State Veterans

Home, but this year the donations will also be shared with 70 veterans living in the Boise area served by the Home's Outreach Program. This generosity included 62 word search books and other games, 29 pairs of socks, 17 hats and stocking caps, and 18 sweaters. Phil Hawkins, Volunteer Coordinator for the State Vets Home, accepted the gifts when Claire Chambers, Jeff Thompson, and members of the Youth Group presented them on Tuesday afternoon, December 17. He stated that the gifts will be placed in stockings on December 20 for presentation at the vets' annual Christmas party. Combined with Meridian UMC's Foot Locker Drive, almost 1,200 items and \$320 in gift cards were presented to the Home this year. Phil was again very touched by Hillview's support of the vets, and he praised the generosity. Thanks again for helping make the Foot Locker Drive such a success!



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.



There are times in all our lives when we need to be lifted up in prayer by the community of faith. Hillview has a long history of being a praying people. We consider it both a privilege and responsibility to pray for the hurts of individuals, families, towns, nations and the wider world.

Only persons who request to be a part of the Prayer Chain Ministry will receive prayer requests. Anyone associated with Hillview may take part in this ministry and is encouraged to do so. If you desire to be part of the Hillview Prayer Chain Ministry, or are currently on the prayer chain and wish to remain for 2014, please contact Linda Sherrets at 377-3248.

Ministry Team Leadership Event January 12 at noon

If you serve on any of Hillview's Ministry Teams, your presence is requested at this planning/ visioning event. We'll do a little brain-storming over lunch at noon, then break into ministry teams for your first meeting of the year. Most teams will finish about 2:00 p.m.

If you are not on a team and would like to attend, please see Pastor Barbara. If you are not sure if you are on a team, please call the office

Write for Our Lenten Devotional



You are invited to write a devotional piece to share with our Hillview congregation and friends this Lenten season. Our Lenten devotional will be similar to our Advent devotional, published as a page-a-day booklet, but will be based on the daily Scripture readings from the Revised Common Lectionary. Your devotional piece should include the Bible verse with citation, two to three paragraphs of your thoughts on the passage (around 300 words), and a prayer to conclude the devotion for the day. We are also seeking submissions of artwork as well to be used in the devotional.

If you are interested in participating in this wonderful opportunity this Lenten season, please contact Maggie Edmondson, Minister of Congregational Life, or sign up on Sunday mornings beginning January 5. Guidelines for submission and the daily Scripture readings will be available when you sign up. All submissions are due no later than Sunday, February 2, 2014.

Children's Church

Children's Church meets every Sunday in Room 10 immediately following Kids & Grown-Ups Together during the 10 a.m. service for children ages 3 to 2nd grade. During Children's Church, the kids interact over the Scripture reading for that Sunday. After hearing the story of the day, they complete an activity or craft relating to the lesson.

New "Basics" Class Coming 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.

Church Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of Hillview or in learning more about what this means, please talk with Pastor Barbara. The next opportunity to join the church is January 19.

2014

Finances for the New Year

This will reach you just as 2013 draws to a close and everyone is preparing to ring in the new year. It is a time of reflection and planning, considering what 2013 has been like, and what 2014 will bring for each of us.

As I reflect on 2013, it was a year of accomplishments for Hillview. We were able to reach our goals with new programs and extended outreach. However, as I write this in the middle of December, it appears we will not be able to pay our shared ministries in full. Shared ministries is our support of the Annual Conference and the General Conference for our vital shared work beyond the local church.

As we begin the new year, Hillview is also asking, "What do we want to do and where do we want to go?" Financial planning is necessary to support our ability to "do" and "go."

Our theme for January will be "**Stewardship Challenge!**" This challenge (remember the Advent Challenge?) will be issued on January 19. We will be providing information throughout the month. Ask yourself, "What can I do for Hillview during 2014?"

You will be asked to make a pledge to support Hillview. These pledges will again be blind pledges, known only to you and God. Your pledges will be received during the services on February 2.

I am looking forward to 2014 as a year of new opportunities and successes for Hillview.

Curtis Kron

Chair, Finance Team

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS and EVENTS

Monthly Circle Meetings:

Morning Book Club

2nd Monday at 9:30 a.m.
Meets at Barnes & Noble.
Contact: Kristen Guyon,
322-5090

Evening Book Club:

2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Church kitchen.
Contact: Darlene Smith,
376-5977

Friends of Phoebe:

1st Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Church kitchen. Child care is
available.
Contact: Dawn Phipps,
713-1414

Lydia Circle:

1st & 3rd Tuesday,
9:30 a.m. -11 a.m.
Church library.
Contact: Judy Halverson,
327-0541

Fellowship Circle:

2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in
members' homes.
Contact: Betsy Baughman,
424-7713.

Contact for UMW events:
Judy Halverson, 327-0541, or
judybhalverson@gmail.com.



General Unit Meeting Saturday, February 1, 2014 10 a.m., Church Library "How's Your Heart?"

All ladies are invited to the General Unit Meeting. We will be learning about how to take good care of your heart, including having a better understanding of how women's heart disease symptoms may be different from men's. Child care will be provided.



VALENTINE CARE PACKAGES—February 9

United Methodist Women at Hillview will be sending young adults a gift of a "care package" of homemade cookies. This outreach includes all young adults, (ages 18-23), not just college students and military personnel. Young Adult Contact Information Is Needed!

Please call the office or check the young adult list on the sign-up tables in the church Gathering Area to add or correct a name and address.

Lydia Circle New Study Begins January 7

This *Servant or Sucker?* DVD series will help viewers discern appropriate, Christ-centered actions when it comes to addressing poverty on a personal or organizational level. Lydia Circle meets twice a month, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., the first and third Tuesdays in the church library. Contact Judy Halverson, 327-0541, for more information.

Mission Trip to Salt Lake City UMCOR Depot

Informational Meeting: Feb. 1, 9:00 a.m., in the church library

Mark Your Calendars -- United Methodist Women Events:

Jan. 14	Veteran Ladies Lunch—10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Feb. 1	General Unit Meeting—How's <u>Your</u> Heart? Mission Trip to Salt Lake City UMCOR Depot Informational Meeting
Feb. 9	Valentine Care Packages
March 15	Women's One-Day Retreat, Hillview UMC
May 4-10	Mission Trip to Salt Lake City UMCOR Depot



Music Notes

We would like to thank everyone who helped make our Night of Music so special!

REHEARSALS (sanctuary)

Rhapsody Ringers Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir Wednesday 7:15 p.m.

Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Hillview Instruments Wednesday 7:45 p.m.

Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Lunch Bunch



The Hillview Lunch Bunch will meet on January 9 at Cracker Barrel Old Country Store (1733 S. Cole Rd.) . The sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Area, or call the church office (375-0392) if you would like to attend.

Hillview Friends & Family,

We would like to express our gratitude for all the thoughtful gifts, cards and treats we have received this Christmas! We are honored to be remembered in these ways!

We wish you all a very Happy New year!

Your Hillview Church Staff

THEOLOGY THURSDAY
January 9, 5:30 p.m. at Cobby's on Chinden

All are welcome to come share in conversation about God, Jesus, and life over soup, sandwiches and beverages. (NOTE: This month only we are meeting on the **SECOND** Thursday of the month instead of the third Thursday because of a conflict with the Interfaith Reflection Gathering on January 16.)



Interested in helping with Vacation Bible School this year? Then we have a place for you! We will have an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 22, in the library to discuss plans for our upcoming VBS June 23-27. We are looking for Leaders to coordinate Recreation, Snacks, Missions, Assembly Time, Science, Music, Crafts, Bible Storytelling, etc. Please let Maggie Edmondson know if you're interested in helping with VBS but are unable to attend the meeting.

Poinsettia List 2013

Steve and Sheryl Messinger in honor of Barb and Larry Carpenter and Dee Messinger
and in memory of Lois Messinger

Kathy Tuttle and Greg Golovanoff in honor and memory of our grandparents

Janine Watkins in honor of sons Brent and Kevin Watkins

Halverson family in memory of Eleanor and Bob Bingham

Ralls Family in honor of Katie and Sam Ralls

John and Pam Lodal in memory of Norm and Len

Jon Worthington in honor of Arlene Worthington and family

Jacqueline Cooney in memory of Jack Cooney

Gary and Gayle Woods in memory of our parents

Anonymous in honor of Hillview staff

Ken Jenkins III in memory of Ken II, E.K. and Mildred Jenkins

Elvin and Amanda Ballance in honor of our parents

Leah Platt in memory of Jerry and our parents

Angela and David Barber in memory of Joe and Ruth Barber, and
Bev Remaklus, and VeLynne Iverson

Sandy McDaniels in honor of my mother, Kay Spurseva

Stan, Doug and Pam Barth in memory of Phyllis Barth

Karen and Dan McAlister in memory of our parents

Dorothy and Mark Friend in memory of Howard Lyndon Friend

Stuart Gustafson and Darlene Smith in memory of our parents

Kim Custer in memory of my parents

Pete Nealis in memory of my parents

Chris Carpentier in honor of my mother, Phyllis Tomlinson

Faith in Action

Shop Online and Support Our Congregation

Sign up at www.UMCmarket.org and you can start making micro donations to our congregation every time you shop online. You can sign up for free.

UMCmarket.org has partnered with hundreds of online stores that are donating a portion of your purchase to Hillview. They are saying “thank you” for referring you. You just need to sign up at UMCmarket.org to start making micro donations.

Moses Kumar, General Secretary of the United Methodist Church’s General Council of Finance and Administration, states, “UMCmarket is a brilliant and easy way to provide your church with a solution to help achieve your revenue goals and to support your ministries.”

Go to www.UMCmarket.org for more information or to sign up.

A Reminder from Your Worship Team

If you have suggestions regarding worship—sermon topics, hymn favorites, concerns, please write them on the yellow card found in the pew pockets and drop them in the offering plate. Pastor Barbara and the team will do their very best to consider and accommodate all suggestions. And if you sign the card, Pastor Barbara promises to get back to you personally. (Remember also that the pink cards are there for your prayer requests and will be given to Maggie Edmondson if you put them in the offering plates as well.)

Our Church Staff

Pastor

Barbara Nixon revbabs2000@gmail.com 991-8464 cell

Minister of Congregational Life

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Director of Technology and Communication

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Organist/Pianist

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Youth Directors

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

Custodian

Mariya Gavrilutsa

Nursery Director

Peggy Sheldon 208-340-8143

Hillview Pictorial Directory

Your WIM Team would like to thank everyone who helped with this project! Thank you to the volunteers who were here to meet and greet, help set up, and, of course, all of you who came and had your portraits taken.



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.

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.

Dates to Remember

January 9: Lunch Bunch at Cracker Barrel
Theology Thursday at Cobby's

January 11: Add the Words Rally

January 12: Ministry Team Leadership Event

January 16: Interfaith Gathering

January 22: VBS Meeting

January 29: Community Meal

February 1: UMW General Meeting

February 9: Valentines Packages

**The Hillview Connector is
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Hillview United Methodist Church**



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