

JULY 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.

Offerings

Many years ago when I was serving at Portland First UMC, I chose to name my article "Offerings." It is a reminder to me that all I can do is be authentic and offer myself to God for ministry, and offer this ministry to the congregation. I have no control over how a congregation receives this ministry, but I trust the Holy Spirit to work through all of us so that ministry will happen! I am excited to be joining with you to offer ministry to the community around Hillview.

I was raised on a dairy and poultry farm in northern New York to parents who valued education. My siblings and I were the first in our family to attend college. My religious background growing up was rather odd. My maternal grandparents started their own denomination during the Depression because the Assembly of God church they attended was too liberal. Their denomination still exists today, although many of their churches have reunited with the Assembly of God. My mother rebelled when she left home and did not continue with their church. My father had been raised by generational Methodists, although he was never active in any church. When my parents were first married, they would attend local churches, but my grandparents would visit them on Monday and tell them everything that was wrong with the church they attended. My parents eventually gave up trying to find a church. When I was a child, the relatives would call my mother whenever there was a tent meeting revival or a special healing service, and they would ask if my sister and I would sing a duet. My mother always said that we would, but that we would need a ride, since she would never attend. My sister and I would attend, hold hands, and watch spellbound as people spoke in tongues, prophesied, were healed, and were slain in the Spirit. When I eventually found The United Methodist Church I was relieved!

My four children have been raised as United Methodists, and I am proud to say that they all love our denomination's theology and worship. It helps that they spent seven years in a Reconciling Congregation, and that my youngest (Jared and Cameron) were even pushed in strollers as we walked as a church in the Portland Gay Pride Parade each Father's Day. The community of Idaho Falls was more of a challenge for them, although the gift of being a minority faith is that they had to

know what they believed. We are all looking forward to once again being part of a Reconciling Congregation!

Now for the details! My husband, Dennis, was raised outside of Boston, MA. He is retired from the INL in eastern Idaho. He has always been a sports guy, but his passion is soccer after coaching for many years. He calls himself "the back of the room guy" at church, which is where you are likely to see him during worship. His ministry is one of support and making sure that nothing gets forgotten. Sarah, my oldest, is staying in Idaho Falls. I am sure you will look forward to her visits so that she can share her singing voice with us! Sean is my 22-year-old special needs son, who also is a gifted singer. He will be moving with us to Boise, finding a home and a support agency, and sharing his music with us. Jared just graduated from Skyline High School in Idaho Falls. He will be attending NNU this fall and will be living on campus. I suggested that this might be his time to experience a minister other than his mother, but he is adamant about attending Hillview. Jared is a great resource for anything involving music and technology. Cameron will be a high school student in Kuna. You won't be meeting Cameron until August, since he is spending the first part of summer with his dad in Paducah, Kentucky. Cameron loves anything football.

I am fortunate to be following Barbara in ministry, and I am glad to hear that you are grieving her move. It tells me that you are capable of great love. I will also be grieving the congregation I am leaving. Let's take the time to get to know each other, to build relationships, and to learn how to do ministry together. I look forward to much coffee and conversation in the months to come!

Grace and Peace,

Brenda

Lunch Bunch



The Hillview Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. on July 10 at Sizzler (Cole Rd. near the Mall) The sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Area, or call the church office (375-0392) if you would like to attend.

COMMUNITY MEAL



The **July meal** will be on **July 30!** **Entrée:** grilled burgers (and veggie burgers) and hot dogs. **NEEDED:** cooks, people for setup to include setting up tables outside and the other tasks to set up for the meal, cleanup staff, and people to monitor and serve food. **FOOD NEEDS:** large salads, side dishes and desserts to serve **20 people**. See the sign-up sheet on the sign-up table in the Gathering Area.

Our special guests will be the BOISE COMMUNITY BAND who will entertain us with their music!



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

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 would be available at the church if you see Claudia during church hours. Thank you!

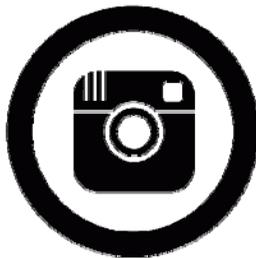
Ice Cream Social

Thursday, July 10, 7 p.m.

Hillview UMC

Everyone is invited!

All ages are invited to the annual ice cream social United Methodist Women sponsor. The program will be a short slide presentation of the May Volunteer In Mission trip to UMCOR West Depot in Salt Lake City. Also, our new pastor, Rev. Brenda Sene will be present to speak and take questions you may have.



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!

Meet New Member Rebecca Wegener

Rebecca was born and baptized into the United Methodist Church. When she was 3, her mother began preparing to become a pastor and was ordained an elder when Rebecca was about 12. Rebecca grew up with her mother as her pastor. Here is Rebecca's faith journey.

After graduating from high school in Fruitland, she attended Boise State where she was very active with the United Methodist students and was co-president one year. She struggled to find a church, trying many churches outside the Methodist church but feeling the need to be in a Methodist church. Although she found another Methodist church in Boise and "did a lot of work in that church," Rebecca "lost" her way and didn't attend a church for many years.

She writes, "After my partner Roz and I met, I started attending a more conservative church. I just did not like some of their views so I was seeking out a new church. Since I live in Mountain Home, where there isn't any UMC, I found my way to the UCC church. I loved that church, but there was just something missing.

When I saw that Janine Watkins (whom I have known for years, even though she may not realize it) had been arrested at the Add the 4 Words protests, I wanted to visit Hillview to thank her. (Then I was going right back to my UCC church.) Well, that day changed things! I felt right at home and I have stayed. I transferred my membership from another UMC church a month later. I have been very active at Hillview and especially with the LGBT group. I have found a lot of comfort in this church. I had sought out a church like this after Roz's motorcycle accident. The accident has made my faith stronger. The last few months have been a time of spiritual growth. I would like to thank Pastor Barbara for this. Thank you for being the church family I have always looked for. God bless you."

Meet Our New Featured Artist, Jean Nelson Ah Fong

Jean grew up in Coeur d'Alene and attended the University of Idaho, where she received a B.S. in Education with certificates in Physical Education and Art. Most of her career centered on physical education; she won Idaho's Outstanding Secondary Physical Educator in 1985. She has taken many watercolor workshops and furthered her art education with a semester's sabbatical at BSU. In her last 10 years of teaching, Jean gradually worked into full-time art education in the Boise School District.

Jean's main mediums are watercolor and ceramics. Idaho landscapes have been a favorite subject. For the Idaho Sesquicentennial, Jean's bas-relief depicting parts of the Ah Fong herbal medicine shop and portraits of the doctors was chosen for display by the Treasure Valley Artists Alliance. She has also displayed in the Idaho Watercolor Society rotunda show and won a prize for Best Amateur Watercolor at the fair last summer. A bas-relief centered on Methodist church history is on display at her home church, Eagle United Methodist.

If you'd like to purchase original artwork seen in this display or cards, or wish to see other samples of her work, contact Jean at jnahfong@gmail.com for prices.

Emergency Compassion Fund **(A ministry to those at risk)**

We have a fund to help people with emergency needs. Many of these people are traveling; some are local people, others come from within our congregation. The specific circumstances are as varied as the people. Most have a one-time, very real financial need. To meet these needs, we draw on a small “rainy day fund.” Funds are drawn at the discretion of the pastoral and office staff and the church treasurer whenever financial help is deemed necessary. Some of the ways we have helped recently include rent, electric bill, gas, food, car registration and emission testing—basic needs for those around us. If you would like to help, please donate to the Emergency Compassion Fund.



Join us this summer for our Summer Sunday School program called Faith Builders. Faith Builders is a 13-week fun program for children 3 years old through 6th grade that will meet in Room 10 at 11:15 a.m. This summer, we will experience the wonder and adventure of the Bible, building our faith brick by brick, so bring your imagination and creativity!

If you have any Legos that you would like to donate to Hillview for our summer program or would let us borrow, please contact Maggie Edmondson, Minister of Congregational Life.

Super Powers of Prayer



We will be learning more about the **Super Powers of Prayer!** (Date and time TBA.) If you're a fan of comic books or superheroes, you might visit the Superhero Database. This entertaining collection of favorite (and not so favorite) superheroes, villains, and superpowers is worth a look, but something is missing. Jesus is missing! So are other superheroes of faith, like Abraham, Joseph, David, and Esther. Your name isn't there. Neither is mine. And there's no mention of God's powerful gift of prayer. We're all superheroes, transformed by God's radical love, and gifted with super powers of prayer.

Children and families will have the opportunity to explore the wonder of the gospel and the super powers of prayer. Together, we will string prayer beads, write prayers for the day, learn how to pray in color, and experience different ways to pray, including a superhero prayer! We will provide sandwich makings and drinks, so please be sure to bring a side dish or dessert to share! Registration forms will soon be available on the bulletin board outside of Room 10.



Hillview UMW NEWS and EVENTS

Mission u

There is still time to register for *Mission u* that will be held July 24 -27, Nazareth Retreat Center, Boise, Idaho. This opportunity to study and grow is not just for women but men and older youth, too! Information about the studies and registration forms for *Mission u* are on the United Methodist Women’s bulletin board in the Ballantyne hallway. Hillview UMW offers sponsorships.

Lydia Circle “Field Trip”—Outdoor Prayer Labyrinth

Everyone is invited to join Lydia Circle on Tuesday, July 1, carpool at 9:30 a.m. at Hillview, to visit Ed Keener’s outdoor prayer labyrinth, located in the Collister area. You are welcome to sit in Ed’s lovely garden for meditation, too. Contact Judy Halverson, 327-0541, for address and more information.

Book Sale on August 9 (9 a.m. to noon) at Hillview UMC

Do you have books you’ve read and would like to donate 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 where you can drop off your donations. If you’d like to volunteer to help with the sale, please contact Judy Halverson at 327-0541.

Looking for a short, quick summer read?

Then you should consider reading *Branded* by Eric Walters, a United Methodist Women 2012 Reading Program Youth Education for Mission Book selection.

What actions do you take to think globally and act locally? How far are you willing to go for social justice? What is the right thing to do? These are questions pondered by Ian, Julia, and Oswald during the course of their social justice class, as new policies are introduced at their high school.

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, at 10 a.m. in the Hillview library.

You can find these two books in the Hillview UMW Reading Program section in the Hillview library.

Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming United Methodist Women Events:

July 8	Veteran Ladies Lunch
July 10	Ice Cream Social—Report on UMCOR West mission trip
July 24-27	<i>Mission u</i>
August 9	Book Sale
Sept. 13	General Unit Gathering
Sept. 20	Sage District Annual Meeting, Payette
Sept. 26-28	Women’s Fall Retreat, Donnelly

Finance

Marguerite Erickson named Hillview United Methodist Church as a beneficiary of an annuity. Marguerite was a member of Hillview from 1977 to 1992. She is not to be confused with Belva Erickson. The two ladies were married to brothers.

We appreciate Marguerite's generosity. We received \$8,084.05, which will be placed in the Trustees Fund to help provide for replacement of the heating, air conditioning, or roofing when the time comes.

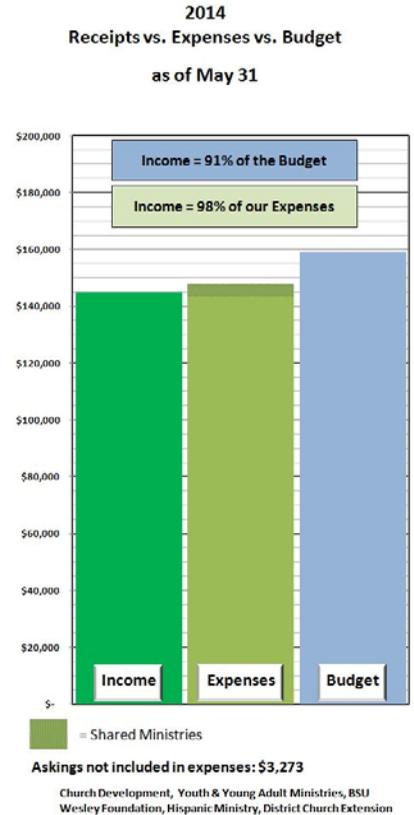
Have you considered Hillview in your financial planning? It can be as simple as naming Hillview in your will, trust, or annuity to receive a portion of your estate.

The chart at the right shows where we stood as of May 31. The cross-hatched portion at the top of expenses represents our portion of Shared Ministry.

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

Curtis Kron

Chair, Finance Team





Music Notes

SPRC is very pleased to announce Leigh Falconer as our new Music Director. Leigh has been spending the month of June getting familiar with Hillview and our music programs. Leigh comes to us with an abundance of choral musical experience. She has many years of experience in both school and church environments directing choirs and teaching piano. She has both domestic and international musical directing experience. Leigh holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Choral Conducting/Music Education from California State-Fullerton, and a Master of Arts degree in Music/Music Education from Boise State University. She maintains affiliations with both state and national music educators associations.

Leigh is working to integrate her talent with those talents that we already have within Hillview's music ministry, as she manages and works to grow our existing programs and create a new and exciting youth music program that will practice weekly and participate frequently in our worship services. We are so lucky to have someone of Leigh's caliber in the important role of Music Director at Hillview. SPRC will introduce Leigh to the congregation during our last two Sundays of June. Please look for Leigh in church on Sundays starting in July, and talk to her about your interests and dreams for music at Hillview.

See you in church.

Charlie Pegan
Chair, SPRC

New members are always welcome!

MUSIC GROUPS and REHEARSAL TIMES: (in the 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



Faith in Action

Back-to-School Supplies

“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



Would you and/or your spouse be willing to play bells with us? We practice every Wednesday night from 6 - 7 p.m. We will be performing about every six weeks.

We will teach you everything you need to know. We really need the extra hands and would greatly appreciate your help!

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

Faith in Action

Help with Friendship Feast

It will be Hillview's turn to provide the crew for 1st UMC's Friendship Feast on **Sunday, July 13**. If you are willing to help, you can sign up on the sheet in the back of the Gathering Area, or contact Kim Custer for more information: custerid@rmci.net or 376-7962.

First Fruits Garden

Calling all gardeners, or "would like to but don't know how" gardeners! Help is needed with our new Hillview Community Garden. Located west of the Youth House, the produce grown communally in them will go on the First Fruits cart on Sunday mornings. Any excess produce will be donated to the Community Ministries Center's Food Pantry. You can just stop by for 15 minutes and pull a few weeds or check to see if anything needs to be watered, tended or harvested. Don't know a weed from a tomato plant? Sign up to help at the back of the Gathering Area and we will work with you. Contact Gayle Woods for more information.

Reverse Yard Sale Update

Many thanks to all who donated items and money for the reverse yard sale held June 7th at Hillview. The refugee folks were grateful and pleased to have a good selection of furniture and household items to choose from. We collected \$730.32 for the Volunteer In Mission Fund.

Our Church Staff

Pastor

Brenda Sene

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

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

July 10: Lunch Bunch at Sizzler
Ice Cream Social

July 14: Morning Book Group in Hillview Library

July 24-27: Mission u

July 30: Community Meal

August 9: UMW Book Sale

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