



**A place where
faith matters**

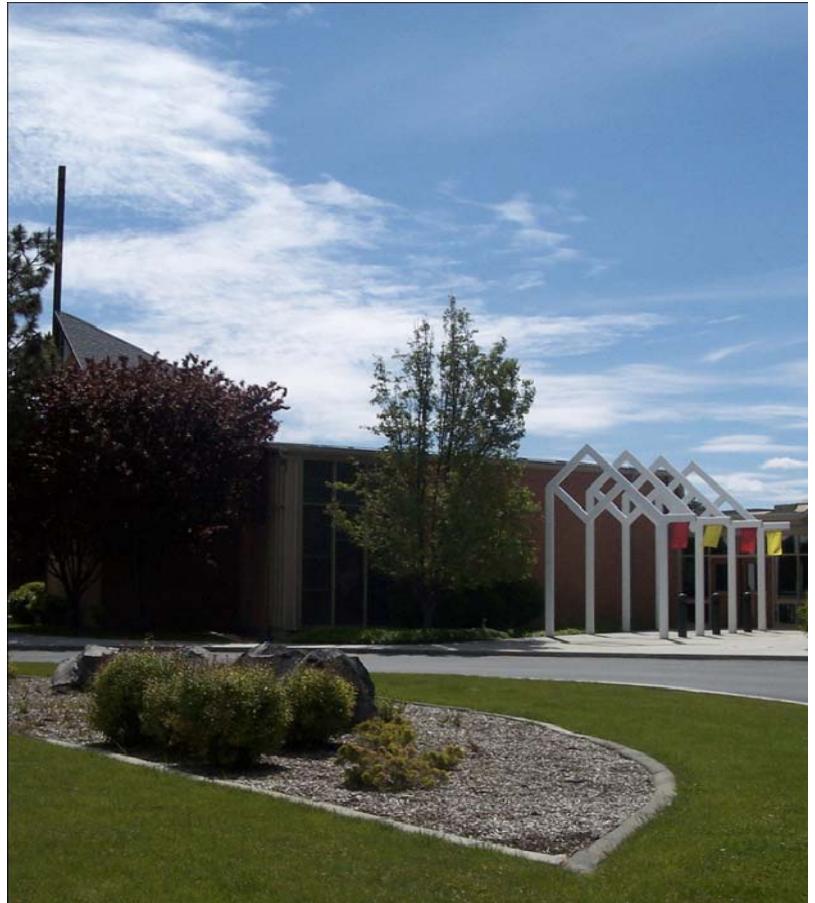
Sunday Morning

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.

The Connector



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

“To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven.” (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

I find myself keenly aware of time these days. While I am always fairly organized and smart about my use of time, I cannot stop the little tape that plays in the back of my mind, “You are here in Boise for four more months, Barbara. Make every precious moment count!”

I have made a conscious decision to phase myself out of all my community involvement, which is mostly, though not entirely, interfaith work that I love. I am not saying “yes” to anything new—no outside classes, no speaking engagements, no book discussions. I enjoy these little outreaches but I find it is my heart’s desire to stay focused as much as possible on Hillview and our shared life. I want as much time as possible with you in the work and joy we share.

In the past few weeks I have spent some of my time at our Statehouse, which may seem like an outside involvement, but I don’t see it that way at all. So many Hillview people are sincerely passionate about justice! We understand that the church must be the church beyond our walls. I have been in the company of dozens of you downtown and elsewhere as we have, in our own various ways, been witnesses to the needs of those who are less able to speak for themselves.

At this moment the glaring justice issue in our state (and the final civil rights struggle in our country) concerns the basic civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons. Just as Methodists have marched for the civil rights of racial minorities and campaigned for women’s rights in past decades, now we stand beside countless other people from all walks of life to bring justice to our LGBT brothers and sisters. I am proud of this history of involvement and proud of how it lives on.

But civil rights is not the only concern that has taken Hillview outside the church walls. I have been with so many of you at rallies regarding hunger concerns, CROP Walks, mail carrier food drives, and vigils outside our penitentiary when there is an execution. I have joined you at the Interfaith Sanctuary, Corpus Christi House, Friendship Feast, the Saturday Lunch Program and other offers of relief for struggling people. And there are new opportunities on the horizon all the time.

Time--how are you spending yours? I think the way we use our precious minutes tells us something about our values. I know that my desire to spend as much time as possible in ministry and fellowship with all of you is an indicator of how much I value this community—how much I love, respect and admire and learn from all of you as followers of Jesus Christ.



All-Church Lenten Fair

Lent

Everyone is invited to participate in the Lenten Fair on Sunday, March 2, at noon in Ballantyne Hall. You will be able to pick up the Lenten Devotional, commit to your Lenten Challenge, make prayer jars, prayer beads, and more. You also will be able to pick up your Passport to Easter and learn how we will be exploring Faith Words during this Lenten season.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Please sign up on the Christian Education bulletin board and contact Maggie Edmondson for more information or with questions.

Spring Break Break for Kids



Looking for something to do during your spring break? Kids, kindergarten through 6th grade, are invited to join us on Wednesday, March 26, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. for crafts, games, fun, and more! Permission slips are available on the bulletin board outside of Room 10 and due no later than March 21. Contact Maggie Edmondson with questions or for more information.

It's Easter Candy Time Again!



We will be hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19, at 11 a.m. We need donations of individually wrapped candy **ONLY**. Because of allergies, we cannot accept candy with peanuts or peanut butter products in them. Please place your candy in the donation bin marked Easter Egg Hunt (in the Gathering Area) by Sunday, April 13. If you have questions or are interested in helping to stuff the eggs or in the Easter Egg Hunt itself, please contact Maggie Edmondson (meg.edmondson@gmail.com or 891-4385).



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.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Hosted by our Boy Scouts (fundraiser)
March 4, 6-7:30 p.m.
Ballantyne Hall**

**Ash Wednesday Service
March 5, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

This is a brief service of ashes when we reflect on our lives and our mortality.

March into the Kitchen on March 9

Are you willing to spend a few hours on a Sunday afternoon slicing, dicing, stirring, and serving to feed hungry people? Or how about serving as a “table host,” visiting with the guests? Each Sunday, Friendship Feast provides a hot meal for the homeless in downtown Boise. The meal is held at First United Methodist, but for several years a team of 6 to 8 people from Hillview has done the cooking and serving the second Sunday of each month with five Sundays. That opportunity comes again on March 9. The commitment is from about 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, and it’s a great opportunity for fellowship and getting acquainted with a few people. Minimal cooking skills are necessary; all you need is a “can do” spirit and the ability to see what needs to be done and then do it! Adults or older youth, please. If you’d like to give this a try, you can sign up at the table near the south door of the Gathering Area. And if you would like more information, contact Kim Custer at custerid@rmci.net or 340-8931.



COMMUNITY MEAL

Mark your calendar for March 26 for our March Community Meal.

NEEDED: Soups, large salads, desserts and WORKERS. See the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area. If you have any questions, please contact Marilesta Nelson at 375-5116.

2014 Youth News

The Youth Group had a great Souper Bowl of Caring raising just shy of \$300 locally. Nationally, the Souper Bowl raised over \$5.8 million, all going to hunger causes.



tacklehunger.org

The Youth Group is preparing for a very full springtime with a youth- led service and the 24-hour Hunger Famine coming up, for example.

March 1: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Youth Sunday practice. Last chance to practice the service.

March 2: Youth Sunday, both services. No Youth Group that evening.

March 9: Youth Group as usual in the Youth House, 5-6:30 p.m.

March 16: Youth Group in the Youth House, 5-6:30 p.m.

March 22-23: On Saturday at 12 p.m. the 24-hour Hunger Famine starts. Eat before you come and be there at noon. We will be fasting and learning about hunger issues locally and nationally. We will break our fast after Sunday School on March 23 at noon. You must have a current Medical Release Form.



Congregational Care Ministries

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 expression of living faithfully within the Body of Christ.

Prayer Chain—There are times in all of our lives when we need to be lifted up in prayer by our community of faith. We consider it a privilege and responsibility to pray for the hurts of individuals, families, towns, nations, and the wider world. Please contact Linda Sherrets at 377-3248 to add your request to the prayer chain.

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 by email at churchoffice@hillviewmethodist.org with information such as name, branch of service, and where serving.



Road Map for Seniors Lunch and Discussion

Save the date! The Congregational Care Committee will be hosting another lunch and discussion on Sunday, May 18, at noon in Ballantyne Hall. Please look for more information on this event in the *April Connector*.



Calling all college students! We are starting a group just for YOU! The College YAMs are a group at Hillview geared towards gathering college students and college-age people in their 20s (graduated from high school) around events, topics, and projects that appeal to your generation. We are a welcoming community, committed to being inclusive and supportive.

Join us on Sunday, March 9, at 9:15 a.m. in the library for coffee and donuts to learn a little more about this group that's just for you! Contact Maggie Edmondson, Minister of Congregational Life, with any questions or for more information at 891-4385 or meg.edmondson@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 have 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.

**Last Chance to Catch
Pastor Barbara's Enneagram Workshop!
Saturday, March 29, 9:30 a.m. to noon**

If you would like to learn more about this useful tool that can help you better understand yourself, your relationships and your perspective on God, come to this introductory workshop and pick up the basics. Sign up in the Gathering Area and be sure to pick up the 15-minute "homework" assignment that you need to complete before the 29th. Very fun and useful stuff!!!

Confirmation

Our newest Confirmation Class began on February 2, and we are blessed to have four wonderful Confirmands and their Mentors this year: Aaron Fretwell (Jim Walt), Apryl Peterson (Gayle Woods), Christian Sprague (Ron Halverson), and Ryan Hanson (John Lodal). Confirmation is an important "journey" in their faith development. This experience is designed to help these young people recognize the Holy Spirit at work in their lives and make "firm" their baptismal vows. Please keep our Confirmands and their Mentors in your thoughts and prayers during this important and intensified time of growth in the Christian faith.



March 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 is necessary. Just come and enjoy! Questions? Call Pastor Barbara (991-8464).



Save the date! Vacation Bible School is June 23-27. Grab a hammer, find a paint brush, 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.

MYMU—Methodist Youth Moving Up

MYMU will be having a Lock-in on Friday, March 21, from 7 p.m. until Saturday, March 22, at 8 a.m. We will be playing messy games, fellowshiping, and trying to get a little sleep in at some point. Permission slips will be mailed home on March 1.

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 to let Maggie know if you will be there, so we have enough food and supplies for this messy night of fun!

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

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

Calling all ladies 50 or under for fun, food, and fellowship the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the church kitchen. Light snacks are provided on an "Ooh, I have a snack to share, so I'll bring it" basis, and bring your own drink.

Join us on March 5 for what is sure to be a lively discussion of books we have read or are reading. The genre or length doesn't matter; just make sure they are books you enjoyed.

Beginning with our April meeting we will be reading and studying *Bad Girls of the Bible* by Liz Curtis Higgs. "Ten of the Bible's best-known femmes fatales parade across the pages of *Bad Girls of the Bible* with situations that sound oh-so-familiar. Eve had food issues. Potiphar's wife and Delilah had man trouble. Lot's wife and Michal couldn't let go of the past, Sapphira couldn't let go of money, and Jezebel couldn't let go of anything. Yet the Woman at the Well had her thirst quenched at last, while Rahab and the Sinful Woman left their sordid histories behind. Let these Bad Girls show you why studying the Bible has never been more fun!" (www.amazon.com)

We plan on covering two bad girls a month. If you have never read or studied a Liz Curtis Higgs book, you are in for a really fun treat!

Mark your calendar! Annual Spring Salad Lunch, May 3, 11:30 a.m.

You don't want to miss Janet Worthington's presentation, "Bloomers"!

Valentine Care Package Update

Thank you to all who contributed to the Valentine Care Package project for our Hillview young adults and military family members—those who baked cookies, donated postage money, and assembled the packages. Also a big thank-you to the Youth Group for decorating the Valentine cards. We mailed 8 packages and delivered 15 packages this year.

Mark Your Calendars - Upcoming United Methodist Women Events

March 8	Every Member Enrichment Event, Southside Blvd. UMC, Nampa
March 11	Veteran Ladies' Lunch
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

ORGAN UPDATE

Welcome, Jerry Wagner!

A note from Sue Walch . . .

Walking has become difficult for me. By extension, playing the organ is a real challenge. To that end, on February 2, Hillview had the opportunity to welcome Jerry Wagner to play the organ and meet this need in our worship service. He will be playing one Sunday per month and it will typically be when we celebrate Holy Communion. There will be no added expense to Hillview for this addition to our service. How cool is all of this?

Jerry came to this area from Pennsylvania, New York, and Texas and has played the organ for several churches through the years. He and his wife, Irene, have lived in the Treasure Valley for about 10 years. Jerry and John Lodal are members of the Hewlett-Packard *Boise Straight Ahead*, a jazz big band made up of volunteer musicians. We look forward to having Jerry orchestrate the sounds of the organ that will enhance our corporate worship experience.

+++++

New members are always welcome to join our teams of singers, instrumentalists, and handbell ringers. Previous experience is not necessary.

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

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 is on the back of the registration form). Registration forms are located on the United Methodist Women's bulletin board in the Ballantyne hallway or you can download it from Hillview UMC's Web site. 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 by pre-arranging by March 9. Contact person: Judy Halverson, 327-0541, or judybhalverson@gmail.com.

Lunch Bunch



The Hillview Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. on March 13 at Mickey Ray's BBQ (980 N. Milwaukee). The sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Area, or call the church office (375-0392) if you would like to attend.

Meet Our Newest Members

Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel was born and raised in southern California. Her great-grandfather founded Santa Ana, California, and her father, W.H. Spurgeon III, founded Special Interest Exploring for the Boy Scouts of America. Sandy has written four books, was a parenting columnist for the “Orange County Register” in California, and now writes for the “School News Roll Call” in California. She works with the military, helping deployed families to stabilize, and has worked with children and families for 52 years. Sandy has two grown children—Kathleen, in California, and Scott, in Meridian. She moved to Idaho to be with three of her four grandchildren. Her first children's book, Believe You Are Beautiful, will be out in the spring.

Barbara and Allen Jackson will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this summer. Allen has a Master of Theology degree from Iliff Seminary and a Ph.D. in sociology from Emory University, which led to his career in college education. He was the Dean of Morningside College (Sioux City, IA) and President of Huntingdon College (Montgomery, AL) for 25 years. In 1993, as Director of the Idaho State Museum of Natural History at Idaho State University in Pocatello, Allen supervised a museum education project aimed at producing traveling exhibits, science kits, and videos that were concerned with conserving Idaho's biodiversity.

Barbara has a B.A. in sociology after taking courses at Grinnell College and Morningside College. She took on the important roles of hostess, public relations, and fundraising with Allen while he was president of Huntingdon College. Barbara's passion has been teaching line dancing, and she taught several skill levels of line dancers at the Life Long Learning Program at Idaho State.

Pam Linger and her husband, Dave, have three daughters, ages 31, 25, and 24; a stepdaughter age 33; and five grandchildren ages 16, 10, 8, 8 (not twins), and 6. She is an administrative assistant at Wells Fargo where she has worked for 35 years. She loves “anything to do with the outdoors, especially hiking, camping, skiing, and working in her yard,” but she also loves to sew. After Pam's mom (Phyllis Barth) died, Pam wanted to come to church with her dad, Stan, to support him. She says, “Everyone at Hillview just drew me in as their own. I am so happy now to be able to call Hillview **my** church instead of calling it my dad's church. Thank you for all of the love you have shown me.”

Faith in Action

One Great Hour of Sharing

On March 30 we will receive our annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering. When disaster strikes, we know that any donations we make to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) will go in their entirety to meet the needs caused by that disaster—be it natural, caused by war, or an ongoing situation. To be able to do this and still pay staff and fund other related costs, UMCOR relies on this offering to provide administrative support. So please plan to add this important ministry opportunity to your “second-mile” giving on March 30.

Hillview’s Community Gardens

Do you enjoy getting your hands in the soil, or are you near the church regularly and willing to pull a full weeds or turn on the timer to water the garden? Want to grow your own produce but don’t have the space or energy to garden? Sign up for a share of the new Hillview Community Garden or just to help occasionally. Located west of the Youth House, these plots are available in small sections to “grow your own.” Or you can volunteer to help for just minutes a week to help maintain the gardens. Produce grown communally will go on the First Fruits cart on Sunday mornings, and excess produce will to donated to the Community Ministries Center’s Food Pantry. Sign up at the back of the Gathering Area. Contact Gayle Woods for more information.

Global Gardens 2014 CSA Shares

Global Gardens, Boise’s refugee entrepreneur garden organization, is offering subscription shares to the Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. There are two options: 20 weeks of fresh farm produce for \$439 or 10 weeks for \$230. Produce is grown by refugees, and several pickup options are available, as well as a delivery option if there are multiple members at one location. Too much produce for you or your family? How about splitting a share with other individuals or families? For more information, visit the global gardens website at www.idahorefugees.org/home/global_gardens.

Our Church Staff

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Yard Sale With a Twist in June

Does anyone remember the “Reverse” Yard Sale we did in 2010? A reverse yard sale is an opportunity for Hillview to serve our community by sharing what we have with newly arrived refugees. We need families to commit to donating usable items and then paying the yard sale volunteers at least \$30 to haul their items off to the church. The items will then be given away free on June 7 to new refugee families. Think what you would need to start your life over if you were a refugee. Then, on June 7, the refugees will be able to choose for free what they need for their household. The Volunteer In Mission team going to Salt Lake City to UMCOR West Depot in May will be using VIM funds for food, lodging and transportation costs. Your donation of \$30 will be used for the mission trip, and your donated items will be another way to be in mission by helping others. Save until June 7 your good stuff that you don’t need or that you want to share. Contact person: Judy Halverson, 327-0541.

Hillview Preschool is planning a fundraiser this spring (April?) that will help you with those clothing/fabric items that are too worn, torn or stained to be shared. We will be sure to let you know when to bring in those old jeans, blankets, sheets, curtains, towels (well, you get the idea) and they will be hauled away to become insulation. The preschool will earn funds to go toward some playground improvements, making this a win-win situation for everyone.

Dates to Remember

March 1: Youth Sunday practice

March 2: Lenten Fair

March 3 to 6: Hillview Preschool Registration

March 4: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 5: Ash Wednesday Service

March 15: Women's One-Day Retreat

March 16: Ministry Fair

March 21-22: MYMU Lock-in

March 22-23: Youth Group 24-hour Famine

**The Hillview Connector is
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Hours: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Mon.-Thurs.
9 a.m.-noon, Friday