

# LIVEWIRE

Hillside United Methodist: January 2021

## Pastor's Ponderings...

### Stay Awake

*And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass him. And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. and he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand." Mark 14:32-42*

As I read this passage, I can't help but think of our current situation, one that happens around every 100 years—a global pandemic. Unfortunately, I resonate with the disciples; I am tired. I am so tired of not being able to gather with friends and family, and with church family. I am tired of having to say "no" to my kids again and again about seeing friends. I am tired of not being able to go out to eat. I am tired of seeing friends in isolation and emotionally suffering. I am tired of watching the news and seeing the numbers of deaths going up and up. I am tired. I want to be done with it all and get back to normal. I am soooooo tired.

But we can't fall asleep! We as a community, as people of faith and hope, we can't give up now. We must stay vigilant. We have sacrificed much already and it HAS paid off. Of members and friends of Hillside church, I only know two people who have gotten COVID-19, and they both have recovered. We can be proud of that! All our sacrifice and saying "no" has made a difference. And there is incredible hope with the first vaccine coming out!

We can do this. Not only can we do it, we can also encourage and help each other stay strong when we feel too tired to stay awake. It is my love for you and my love for our community that I desire to stay strong and vigilant. I will continue to sacrifice now, so that when the time is right, I can be with you all IN PERSON again.

May this New Year give you hope and renewed faith!  
Your Pastor, Cynthia



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**February 2021 Livewire deadline is Monday, January 25th.**

## CHRISTMAS OFFERING

This year's Christmas offering will be given to the Salvation Army HEAT Share program. HeatShare is a program that provides emergency utility assistance for people with no place left to turn. The program is funded in part by Salvation Army donors and by local utility companies and their customers. Funds are typically used to pay for natural gas, oil, propane and electricity. The program has provided more than \$40 million worth of assistance to over 150,000 households since 1982. Annually, about 4,700 households receive an average of \$370 to keep their homes warm.

Year after year, requests for assistance are typically greater than the available resources, so Salvation Army relies on donations to continue to help those in need. This year, due to COVID, they expect even more requests.



MARTIN  
LUTHER  
KING JR.  
*Day*



### **Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Breakfast January 18, 2021**

Join Virtually for the 31st Annual MLK Breakfast on Monday, January 18, 2021 9am–10:15am to eat and hear A Bold Conversation with Dr. Bernice King and Ambassador Andrew Young moderated by Dr. Michael L. Lomax.

### **January Sunday Worship**

We will continue to hold joint online worship services with First UMC. The link can be found below, also on Hillside's Face-book page, and Pastor Cynthia sends an email out on Saturday with the link included. Watch the service as it goes live online at 10am Sunday mornings, or go back and watch whenever you have time. We no longer will have the Hillside parking lot open Sunday mornings.

**January 3 – Bishop David Bard** will be preaching this Sunday. We will also share in the Lord's Supper during this service.

**January 10 – Lee Stewart** will be preaching this Sunday and sharing with us what is going on with CHUM.

**January 17 – Daniel Oyinloye** will be preaching on MLK weekend.

**January 24 – Pastor Jeanine** preaching.

**January 31 – Pastor Cynthia** preaching.

YouTube Link to find the Sunday online worship services:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA47ISATrUsyV7xJ8b4cWww>

## Ways to Serve at Hillside

Are you looking to get more involved at Hillside? Our Nominations Team is looking for people who wish to serve a term on one of our teams; Finance, Trustees, Staff Parish Relations, Worship, Christian Education, and Missions. If you are interested please talk with Pastor Cynthia or Carole Hawkinson.



**Thanks to all:** We took a load of new toys, warm blankets, coats, hats, mittens, and scarves down to the Union Gospel Mission on Thursday. Between Coppertop and Hillside we donated 150 toys for the Mission to give to families for Christmas. Hillside donated about 20 blankets, 30 coats, and over 100 hats & mittens! We also donated cereal for CHUM's food shelf and new underwear and socks. So proud of our congregations for their generosity and giving spirit this season.



## STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to everyone who has turned in “estimate of financial giving commitment” cards for 2021. If you haven’t turned yours in yet, please do so as soon as you are able. It will enable us to better plan for our mission and ministry in 2021. Extra copies of both forms are available if you need one. Just email or call the church office. Please consider pledging, especially if you give to the church already. More than ever, we will really need to know what we are working with in order to plan accordingly.

If you have an emergency please call Pastor Cynthia on her cell at 218-260-3114. If you cannot reach her, please contact Carole Hawkinson 218-345-6874 or Carolyn Dahl 218-727-6342. They usually know how to find your pastor!

*A note from Hillside’s Office Administrator:* I thank you for the welcome that I received from all the UMC Hillsideers since I started in May of this very difficult year. Hopefully, as the pandemic eases, I will meet more of you face to face. I appreciate the kindness and the Christmas gift that I received.

Kathleen.



FINANCIAL GIVING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER		
AMOUNT NEEDED PER MONTH		\$7,701.00
November 27	giving	\$ 690.00
December 5	giving	\$ 2,255.00
December 12	giving	\$ 775.00
December 18	giving	\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 4,720.00
Balance		-\$2,981.00



Thank you for your gifts to CHUM .  
Your gifts feed your neighbors, shelter and support people experiencing homelessness, provide dignity through advocacy and compassion, and give hope for a changing future.



### Dial-a-Story

Do your children or grandchildren love listening to a good story?

Check out Dial-a-Story at the Duluth Public Library.

Call 218-626-6500 and choose a story read by familiar library staff. There are story-time favorites like picture books, songs, and chapter books for kids and teens. Stories are updated at the beginning of each month.

This service is brought to you by Every Child Ready Duluth & the Duluth Library Foundation.

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CHUM Contact Information:  
Administration 218-720-6521  
CHUM Center 218-726-0153  
Food Shelf 218-727-2391  
chum@chumduluth.org, www.chumduluth.org

### Loaves and Fishes

Due to COVID-19, I was unable to shop for groceries for a Holiday meal at the Dorothy Day House. We gave them a check so they could do the shopping. I told them what we would have provided if we could have. It was ham, scalloped potatoes, sweet potatoes, fixings for special salad, rolls and Christmas cookies. Hopefully in January we can again buy food for them to prepare a meal.

Thank you to everyone who sends donations so we can continue this mission project. They appreciate very much what we do on the second Tuesday of each month.

*Blessings from Carolyn Dahl*

Please remember to keep the homeless and the hungry in your prayers. Thank you for the cash donations so we can continue to do the mission project.



### Many Thanks to All of You who Give Your Time, Your Spirit and Your Resources:

- To the women who provided a meal to Loaves & Fishes in December
- Everyone who has donated to Chum's food shelf through HUMC the last few months
- To all those who quietly give to our church and community.





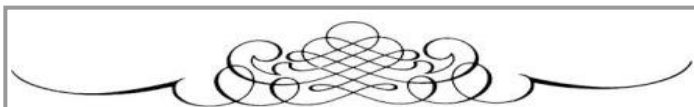
### **Hillside UMC Book Club**

The Hillside UMC book club will be meeting the second Tuesday of each month.  
ZOOM 7:00 p.m.

If you would like to join the book club, please call Sandra Wilmot (218) 348-2712.

January's book is "American Dirt" by Jeanine Cummins

Tuesday, January 12, 2020 7:00 p.m.



#### **Please Keep Us in Your Thoughts & Prayers**

Chris Christensen, Marge Dahl, Derry Gilberg, Barb Kent, Claren Suomala, along with our men & women in military service and their families. We especially pray for everyone's physical and mental health during this pandemic and those affected by extreme weather disasters.



#### **Happy January Birthday to Hillside Friends!**

- 5 Leroy Britton
- 26 Christian Durfee
- 26 Jane Mavec
- 27 Derry Gilberg

If you don't see your name here, please call the church office so we can add you to the list. 727-4257



#### **Hello my fellow Hillsideers;**

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who is sending in their financial giving to the church. It makes a big difference and we are grateful for your generosity. We understand that some of you may be experiencing financial hardship due to the pandemic. Please let us know if you are struggling to pay bills and buy needed supplies. We are family, and we are in this together. Give what you can, help where you can, and also ask for help when you need it.

Blessings to all of you, and be well.  
Julie Manisto, Your Finance Chair

## **Administrative Council Meeting Minutes December 1, 2020 via ZOOM**

**Online Attendance:** Carolyn Dahl, Diane Boris, Jim Leland, Carole Hawkinson, Julie Manisto, Sandy Wilmot, Pastor Cynthia

Carolyn called the meeting to order. Pastor Cynthia gave a devotion on Advent. In Advent we are waiting and preparing for peace, love and hope. She asked us what was something that gives us hope. Bentleyville, counting blessings, and a vaccine that will be out soon were a few things mentioned.

**Secretary's Minutes:** The minutes of the secretary's minutes for October were reviewed. One change was made. Even though we don't have a Boy Scout troop right now, they filed bankruptcy to protect themselves from a lawsuit against pedophiles. A motion was made by Carole and second by Pastor Cynthia that the minutes be approved. Motion approved.

**Treasurer & Financial Report:** The Treasurer's report was reviewed as of the end of November. The Thanksgiving offering was \$115. A little more has come in since this report was made out. We have heard from the bank that the CARES Loan has been forgiven and will not have to be paid back.

**Stewardship:** \$34,470. has been received In pledges so far for the 2021 budget.

**Pastor's Report:** She is pleased with the Advent giving so far. - Toys, warm clothes and food. The men's bible study is on hold for December. She has been doing a lot of recording for the Sunday online service and making calls to our church members.

**SPRC:** They met with the District Superintendent and discussed how things are going. We need to have a charge conference to approve the salary package for Pastor Cynthia. We discussed a raise for our secretary. \$2.00 an hour was agreed on. A motion was made by Carole and seconded by Sandy to raise the salary of the secretary \$2.00 an hour beginning in January 2021. Motion approved. End of the year bonuses was discussed for our two employees. A motion was made by Sandy and second by Carole to give our two employees \$100 each out of the budget for SPRC. Motion approved.

**Trustees:** There is nothing to report on. Our parking lot on the other side of Piedmont Avenue has been emptied. The car was towed away and the boat and camper were moved out of the parking lot.

**Mission:** Hats, mittens and warm clothing was collected last month and given to Union Gospel Mission and Chum. The Loaves and Fishes mission will be given \$75 to buy food for a dinner in December. Because of the pandemic, we don't want to go to the store and shop.

**Worship:** Worship will be online through Christmas and probably longer. We should take out "no collection of things" from our Reopening Policy. We are collecting items to be distributed for the needy in the church. Pastor Cynthia has talked to a few people who are willing to be on a committee. Dave McKowski is willing to be on Finance or SPRC, Jan Barker and Jim McLaughlin are willing to be on Education, and Sandy Dahl is willing to be on SPRC. Pastor Cynthia has requested all the members of the Ad Council stay on for next year. Everyone agreed to stay on.

**Other:** The date for the next meeting is January 5, 2021 via ZOOM. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Carole and seconded by Carolyn. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diane Boris, Ad Council Secretary