



A Note from Pastor Steve

Dear Church Community,

Thank God for the season of Lent! If you are worn down by changes in your culture, city, family, relationships, or workplace, then Lent was MADE JUST FOR YOU. Lent is an opportunity to pause and recenter.

This year, we will recenter on the cross of Jesus by going on a spiritual journey together. You'll soon receive a small Lenten devotional based on the writings of Henri Nouwen. We will all use these devotional booklets to pray and listen to God together every day. Then, on Sundays, we will continue that journey toward the cross by digging deeper into a passage from the devotional. Check out the schedule of sermons on the right.

This Lent is our opportunity to move away from the distractions and anxieties of life and be drawn closer and closer to the cross of Jesus Christ.

Peace in Christ,

Lent 2023: Drawn to the Cross

February 22, Ash Wednesday:

Psalm 51: 17

A Contrite Heart

February 26, First Sunday of Lent:

Jeremiah 29:11

The Shape of God's Plan: Our devotions this week will focus on God's plan and purpose for our life.

March 5, Second Sunday of Lent:

2 Corinthians 5:15

More Than an Example: Our devotions this week will focus on our life of Christian discipleship.

March 12, Third Sunday of Lent:

Joshua 1:9

Faithful Forever: Our devotions this week focus on our faithful Lord.

March 19, Fourth Sunday of Lent:

2 Corinthians 3:18

Transformed Toward Glory: Our devotions this week focus on our transformation toward glory.

March 26, Fifth Sunday of Lent:

John 11:33

Our Comforter: This week, our devotions focus on Christ's power to lead us from grief to his glory.

April 2, Palm Sunday: John 12:12-13

Palm Sunday Parade: Our devotions this week focus on Holy Week.

April 7, Good Friday: John 19:30

Mission Accomplished

April 9, Easter: Luke 24:5

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah

WORSHIP WITH US DURING LENT

Join Us In Person...Or Online

Join us for worship Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM! We hope to see you in-person, but if you aren't comfortable yet or are out of town, you can view the service online in real time (or at your later convenience) at hamblenpres.org/live-stream. You can also go to YouTube and search for Hamblen Park Presbyterian Church.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday signals the beginning of the 40-day season of Lent. As Christians, it helps us to focus our hearts on prayer and repentance. Lent prepares us for an intentional season of reflection on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.

Worship Service February 22, at 7:00pm: The service will feature music from the monastic community of Taizé, France. Taizé is a contemplative form of worship that incorporates sung and chanted prayers, liturgical readings, meditation, and silence. The music is simple and repetitive, leaving room for prayer and reflection.

Good Friday

Worship Service April 7 at 7:00pm: Our Good Friday service is a solemn reflection on Holy Week as we retrace Jesus' final steps to the cross. We will share communion in remembrance of The Last Supper, and we will hear about Jesus' suffering and crucifixion, the ultimate expression of God's great love for us.

Palm Sunday

Worship Service April 2, at 9:00am. We celebrate the day Jesus entered Jerusalem as Savior and King. The service will be filled with festive music by our choir, kids, handbells, and band as we begin Holy Week



Easter Sunday

Worship Services April 9, at 9:00 and 10:30 AM: Join us as we celebrate God's victory over sin and death through Christ's resurrection. The two services will be identical, and our band, choir, and handbells will be joined by a brass ensemble as we joyfully proclaim, "He is risen indeed!"

Easter Egg Hunt April 9, at 10:00 AM: Calling All Kids! On Easter Sunday we will be having our annual outdoor Easter Egg Hunt between worship services, so make sure you remember to bring your Easter baskets, bags, buckets, or any egg-collecting container.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022 Annual Report Available

If you would like to view a copy of our latest annual report, it is available on the home page of our website: www.hamblenpres.org. Printed copies can be picked up at the church. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please call Trina at 509-385-0619.

Neighborhood Outreach

Again, we had a successful holiday season supporting Hamblen Elementary, Adams Elementary, and Liberty Park Community Development Center with the help of your donations.

- **Hamblen Elementary:** 2 \$250 Fred Meyer gift cards were purchased for the counselor to distribute to families at Hamblen
- **Adams Elementary:** 10 \$50 Fred Meyer gift cards were purchased for the counselor to distribute to families at Adams
- **Liberty Park Community Development Center:** Toys were purchased and donated to the center for the annual 'Toy Store' held on December 9, 2022.
- **Bite2Go:** Wednesday pick-ups continued up to Christmas vacation with a double pick-up on the last week prior to break.

Your commitment to supporting all of these programs cannot be taken lightly. We, and the community we serve, are incredibly grateful for your support.

Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting and brunch will be February 26, after worship. The deacons and elders will provide breakfast casseroles. The church is providing sausage, milk, and juice. We are asking the congregation to bring the following:

Last name A through M

- Breads (muffins, bagels, croissants, sweet rolls, etc.)

Last name N through Z

- Fruit (salad or cut up)

Quilt Raffle Winner

Congratulations to Bev Elmore, winner of the Deborah Circle November Quilt Raffle!

Deborah Circle would like to thank all those who participated and supported us in this fun fundraiser, and we say a special thank you to Cindy Dicken and Steve Watts for doing the drawing for us!



Hamblen Park Preschool
— curious learners and caring neighbors —

Preschool Registration

Hamblen Park Preschool registration for the 2023-2024 school year will begin in March. If you would like to be notified as soon as registration is open, please contact Alicia Powell, Preschool Director, at 509-448-2910 or aliciap@hamblenpres.org. We love serving this amazing community and look forward to welcoming new friends in the fall!

CONNECT AND GROW ...

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Not Your Favorite Bible Story: Wrestling with the book of Judges
Join us for this thought provoking study as it continues into spring.

“In those days, there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes.” In many ways, this evocative final line of the book of Judges summarizes the content of the entire book. Much of the narrative in Judges leaves us shocked, confused, and in some cases, terrified. Engaging this text brings us into encounter with characters and stories we might wish were deleted from the Bible. We'll wrestle some of the most challenging texts in the Hebrew scriptures to boldly ask deep questions about God and humanity. Join us Wednesday mornings at 9:30 AM in the Skylight Room.

Lenten Small Groups

Join a small group this Lent! Groups will meet for 5 weeks to discuss readings from the Lenten devotional Drawn to the Cross. Our time together will build community, deepen our knowledge of scripture, and encourage us as we pursue our Lenten spiritual practices. Groups will meet:

- Sunday mornings after worship in the Skylight room (March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2)
- Wednesday evenings on Zoom (March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29)

Contact Pastor Jennie for more information! (jennieb@hamblenpres.org)

Devotionals and a list of discussion questions were sent in the mail. If you did not receive a copy of the devotional in the mail, please contact the church office and we will gladly provide one.



Deborah Circle

Deborah Circle comes together on the first Monday of each month, from September through June, to join together in making items of comfort and warmth for the members of our community that are in need. If you like to sew, knit, crochet, tie quilts, or even play with colors and fabrics to design works of art, come, bring a lunch, and join us in fellowship and ministry. Our upcoming meetings are March 6, April 3, May 1, 9:30-12:30, and June 5, 11:30-2:00.

...IN A GROUP

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

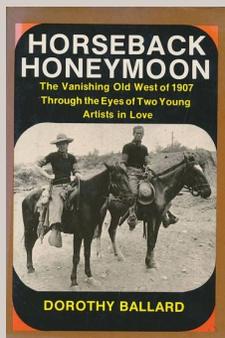
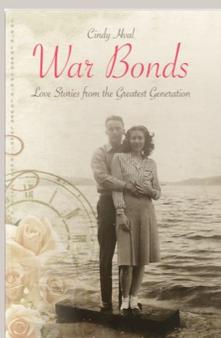
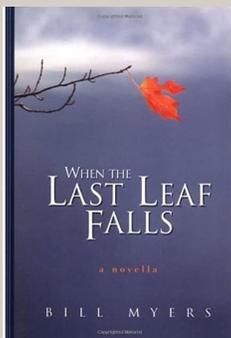
Join us via Zoom Sundays, 7:30-8:30 AM. Currently studying the Gospel of John. When we finish John, we will decide what to study next. Contact Bob Nofsinger at nofsingerbm@gmail.com to receive a Zoom link and more information.

Portable Projects

Are you seeking a place to work on your project in the community of others? Bring your project each Thursday 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. to the Skylight Room and join like-minded crafters. We work on individual projects and by doing so join a community of crafters sharing and learning from each other.

Upcoming Book Club Selections

HPPC Book Club meets September-May on the third Thursdays of the month from 2:00 to 3:30 PM at the church. All are welcome to attend! Questions? Contact Betty Thompson at bettythomps@aol.com.



Here is what we are reading next:

March 16: *When the Last Leaf Falls* by Bill Myers

April 20: *War Bonds* by Cindy Hval

May 18: *Horseback Honeymoon* by Dorothy Ballard, Ellen and Quincy Scott

Additional Options for Adult Fellowship & Study

All groups are open to anyone who would like to join in.

Drop-ins are always welcome, so if you miss a week, just jump back in next week!

- **Sunday Morning Bible Study**--Sunday mornings, 7:30-8:30 AM. Contact Bob Nofsinger at nofsingerbm@gmail.com to receive a Zoom link and more information.
- **Men's Breakfast & Bible Study**--In Person & on Zoom, Tuesday mornings, at 7:30 AM. If you are interested in being part of this group or have questions, contact Jim Sipes at grandpanow4@aol.com. To get a Zoom link, email Joe Bruce at columbiacycle@gmail.com.
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study**-- In person, Wednesday mornings, 9:30-11:00 AM--Led by Pastor Jennie. Contact Heather Notske at 509-385-0627 or heathern@hamblenpres.org for more information.
- **HPPC Book Club**—Third Thursdays, 2:00-3:30 PM. Contact Betty Thompson at bettythomps@aol.com to receive a Zoom link and more information.

YOUTH MINISTRIES



Youth Groups

We're full-swing into our middle and high school ministries! We're continuing to meet weekly to hangout, play games, and dive deeper in faith together.

For more information and ways to get involved, contact Mitchel Pierce, Director of Student Ministries, at mitchelp@hamblenpres.org or 206-739-6126.

Caravan

Our middle school ministry for 6th-8th graders continues to meet on Mondays from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at the church! We play hard, sing fun songs, and ask deep questions in our small group times! Since the new year we've been talking about some of the big questions that come up as we're figuring out our own faith: Does God actually care about us? How do we notice God in our lives? How do we grow trust and faith in God?

Oasis

Our high school ministry for 9th-12th graders continues to meet on Sundays from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the church! We play games, worship together, and think deeply in small groups. Since the start of the new year, we've been going through the Basics of the Bible, this piece of God's word that Christianity is based on, and asking some important questions about what it means for us today.

Save the Dates for Summer 2023

- Vacation Bible School: June 26-30
- Oasis Mission Week: TBD, likely in July
- Camp Spalding Middle School 1: July 23-29*
- Camp Spalding High School 2: July 30-August 5*

*There are several options for each age group, but we encourage HPPC students to attend the same week to build relationships.

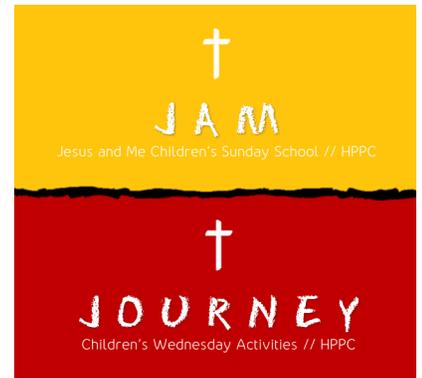


CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Children's Ministry

Please pray for our kids throughout the year, and that the programs offered at HPPC will change lives for the better! Thank you for partnering with us in the lives of our children!

For more information on our children's ministries or how you can help, contact Cindy Dicken, Director of Children's & Family Ministry, at cindyd@hamblenpres.org or 509-385-0626.



J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) & Journey

Starting the year in JAM Sunday School, we are continuing our study in the Grow Curriculum. The subjects for the spring will be the teaching and ministry of Jesus, which will lead up to Easter.

In Journey Kids' Club, we are finishing up our study of Psalms and will be starting into more topical studies about doing our best and putting God first.

Advent 2022

The season of Advent was filled with fun programs and fellowship! The Advent Fair was a great time for the whole church to fellowship and create with lots of different craft stations. The Christmas Pageant from Scratch and Soup Supper was a huge success with many of our children involved in the drama, and even a few high school students joining the fun! The addition of our worship band during the carols was the biggest hit of the night, with the incredible soups coming in at a close second!

One Great Hour of Sharing

We will have the fun fish banks available again this year for kids to collect a Lenten offerings for One Great Hour of Sharing. These will be available starting March 5, 2023.

Vacation Bible School 2023

Fun times ahead! VBS 2023 will be June 26-30, 9 am – 12 pm. The life of Peter is the focus of the Bible studies. Registration begins in April!

We need a huge team of volunteers to make this event happen, and there are many ways to help! If you would like to be a volunteer or part of the support staff, please contact Cindy Dicken, Director of Children's and Family Ministries at cindyd@hamblenpres.org or 509-385-0626. Thank you for supporting our kids in this amazing outreach to our community!





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February 2023

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Camp Spalding Registration

Don't let the snow and cold weather fool you...camp is just around the corner! There was record attendance in 2022, and many of the camps are expected to sell out again in 2023. As such, it is highly recommended that you register early. Information regarding camp dates can be found at campspalding.org/schedule/.

HPPC provides scholarships for half of the cost for camp. To receive a code for the 50% scholarship, contact Sandy Riebe **before you register** at sandyr@hamblenpres.org. Registration will open **March 6**, on the camp website at bit.ly/campspalding2023.

