



HYDE PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 2023 Church Mouse



Dear HPPC Family,

There is a News Channel in Seattle, Washington with an anchor named Eric Johnson that does a segment called Eric's Heroes. It is important to note that none of the people highlighted as one of Eric's heroes have done anything earth shattering. There is the man with learning differences who walks the neighborhood with a wagon collecting recyclable cans. He walks up and down the hills. He works hard and always with a smile on his face. There was a boy scout who redid a public roadside chapel that had fallen into disrepair. He raised money and gathered help to create a new foundation, add new paint and redo the pews. It became a peaceful respite for weary travelers once again. There was a group of three neighbors who gather regularly and sit together in a driveway in lawn chairs drinking their coffee. They wave and offer a friendly hello to every walker, jogger, dog and car that passes by. After doing this for some time they now know *many* of their neighbor's names. It feels good to be noticed, known and to be spoken to and they are eager to share that joy with others.

Everyday heroes. I bet we all know some. And I bet we all are some!

Sometimes I put pressure on myself to be a real superhero. I feel like I need to garner some superhero power and use it to change the world or do more than I am capable of doing. It quickly begins to feel overwhelming. Instead, I think the real power behind what all these highlighted heroes have done is to look around and see what they *can* do...and then do it! If we throw our hands up and convince ourselves we can't do anything, then we will most likely be correct. When we do begin our work, we should dive in and be generous with our time, talents, labor and resources.

In October, we will begin to talk about stewardship. I often think of Luke's gospel (Luke 10:25-29) and the way Jesus answers the question "And who is my neighbor?" with the story of the Good Samaritan. Some version of the "Greatest Commandment" is found in all the gospels and this version in Luke concludes with the story of the Good Samaritan and is particularly fitting for reflecting on stewardship. This is the basis for Christian life: to love God and love our neighbors. And we show our love to our neighbors by generously giving our time, energy and resources, just as the Samaritan did.

In the coming days, I hope you will prayerfully reflect on where and how you can respond to God's call to be generous in your life. How can you be an everyday hero with zeal and passion? What are some new ways you can love God and love your neighbor?

I'm excited to be part of this generous and loving church family. I am grateful to be in a community that lives into this calling of stewardship, generosity and faithfulness.

Peace,
Emily



Monthly Giving Report



Volunteer Calendar October 2023

Date	Greeter/Usher	Refreshments	Liturgist	Communion
1	Jack & Ross	Emily Owen	Emily Eyob	Set Up: Emily Owen Serve: Gary/Emily E.
8	Jack & Ross	Luncheon	Elsa	
15	Jack & Ross	Kathryn	Jack	
22	Jack & Ross	Alan & Kathy	Alan	
29	Jack & Ross	Anna	Anna	

Financial Report



It is through the seeds of faith that we grow.

August 2023	
Plate Income:	\$6,799.00
Expenses:	\$5,100.70
Total:	\$1,698.30



Thriving through Prayer, Service & Generosity.

Thank you for your generous contributions as we continue to build for our future.

Food Pantry



As you give thanks for God’s many blessings, please remember those who are hungry and in need. Your donations are greatly appreciated as we provide groceries to our neighbors.

Between September 5th and September 26th, 30 people received groceries.

Children’s Scholarship Drive in the Congo

In August, we were invited to join San Gabriel Presbyterian in their work to support the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The mission was to place orphaned children with family members and provide them with education. \$120 paid for a child’s need for a year and your donations of almost \$3,500.00 helped beloved children on the other side of the world. Thank you so very much.



october



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 HOB	2	3 Food Pantry Micheal Tapsak's Birthday	4 World Animal Day	5 World Teacher's Day	6 World Smile Day	7
8 HOB Luncheon	9 Columbus Day	10 Food Pantry World Mental Health Day	11	12	13	14
15 ASH Session Gus Cardenas' Birthday	16	17 Food Pantry Emily and Hosea Eyob's Anniversary	18	19	20	21
22 Shannon Spilman's Birthday	23	24 Food Pantry	25 Charlie Eyob's Birthday	26	27	28 Memorial Service
29 World Cat Day	30	31 Aiden Aleman's Birthday Food Pantry Halloween				



Being a teacher is such an important (and sometimes thankless) job. Show gratitude to those who shape our children's future on World Teacher Day on **OCTOBER 5TH!**



Mental health is as important, if not more so than physical health. Take time to relax and recharge your brain on World Mental Health Day on **OCTOBER 10TH!**



Enjoy dressing up, stocking up on candy to satisfy your sweet tooth but be careful and stay safe on Halloween on **OCTOBER 31ST!**



September Session Highlights

- Doris reported that the August income was good. The bank balance remains good. The session is still looking at longer-term investments for part of the funds.
- The money received from Florence McElroy's life insurance policy was put into the savings account.
- Emily will be out on October 8th. Rev. Ann Brizendine will preach in Emily's absence.
- Emily is still working to get the money gifted to the church from Florence's Teacher Retirement Fund.
- The church received A Certificate of Giving from the Presbyterian Children's Home. Because of our support, over 4500 at-risk children have been helped.
- The average attendance was 22-24 people during August.
- Alan Constant has received approval to become ordained which should happen sometime in October. Congratulations Alan.
- Emily Eyob and Emily Owen are working together to start a Zoom Book Read. More information to follow.
- Esther kindly sent out 11 cards in August. Thank you, Esther.
- The Congo Mission has received \$3,495.00 thus far and Doris reported receiving another \$200 in the mail recently.
- The Food pantry always needs donations of food or money to buy food.
- The Holiday Market will be coming up in early November. Announcements will be made about donations of raffle prizes as well as items to sell, food, and baked goods. The raffle brings in a good portion of our proceeds.
- On October 1st, we will take up the Peace and Global Mission special offering. We have Minute for Missions scheduled for September 24th and October 1st.
- October is the beginning of our annual Stewardship Drive. We will hear more about that later.
- November 5th was designated as Commitment Sunday at which time we will take up our pledge cards for 2024.
- The session will discuss our benevolences in October if changes want to be made.



Upcoming Events



Every year we give money to several community outreach programs including Manos de Cristo, Micah 6, Presbyterian Children's Home, and Mission Presbytery. We have been able to commit 10% of our budget to these programs which is a big achievement for any church, but especially a small one.

Our annual Holiday Market enables us to continue to do this year after year. This year it will be held on Saturday, November 11th and we need everyone's support and help to make it a success. How can you help?

- Spread the word to family, friends and neighbors. Karen will have cards advertising the event for you to hand out.
- Provide arts, crafts, handmade items, and soup mixes to sell.
- Make baked goods packaged to be sold to take home.
- Donate and buy baked goods.
- Donate items for our raffle which brings in a large part of our proceeds.
- Buy and sell raffle tickets as well as other items.
- Donate food or money to purchase food to sell to shoppers.
- Volunteer to help on the day of the market.
- Come shop and buy items, raffle tickets and baked goods for yourself, family, and friends.

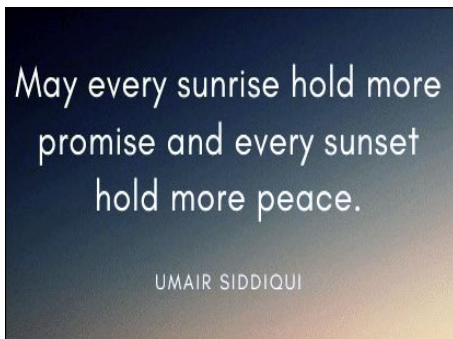
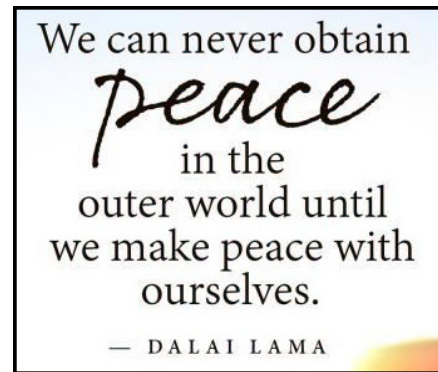
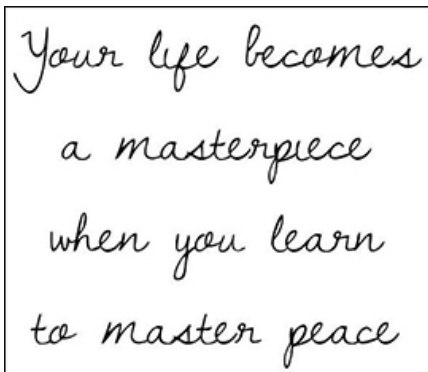
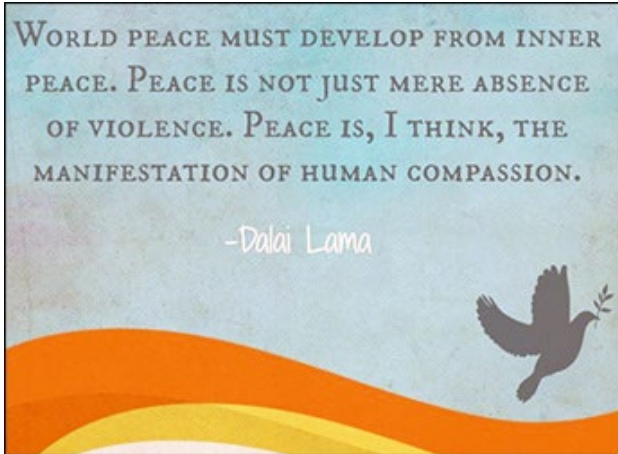




Give Peace a Chance I



Everywhere we turn, we see discord, war, hatred, and rivalry. There is rarely a mention of love, oneness, or people who come together to support one another in these difficult times on a local, national or global level. Give a moment to pause a think of the value of peace within and the difference it makes.





Give Peace a Chance II



peace.

it does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work. it means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart.

If you cannot find gratitude, you'll never find peace.

Leticia Rae



**Peace begins
with a smile.**

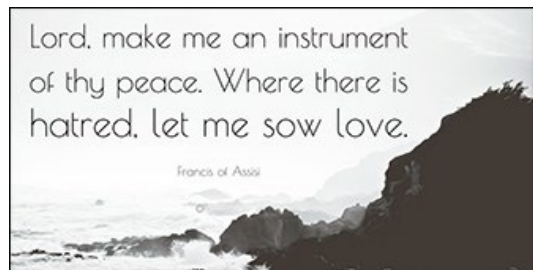
Mother Teresa

“Peace is the
only battle
worth waging.”

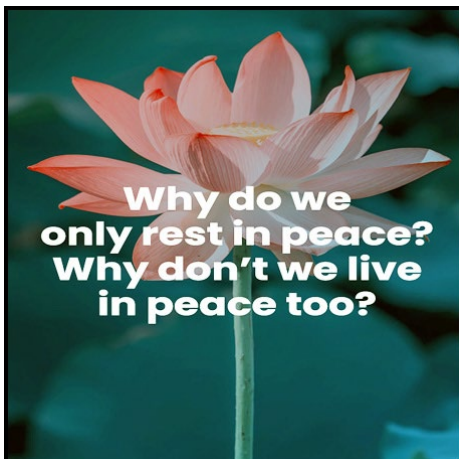
- Albert Camus

Lord, make me an instrument
of thy peace. Where there is
hatred, let me sow love.

Francis of Assisi



**Why do we
only rest in peace?
Why don't we live
in peace too?**



**I'm not interested in
fighting, hating, blaming or
being petty with whatever
time I have left in my life.
I want to live. I want to be
happy. I want to be loved
and I want to have peace.**

Amen