



HYDE PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 2026 Church Mouse



Dear HPPC Family,

What does it mean to create balance in our lives? Are we getting enough sleep? Do we have enough energy when we are awake? Are we eating well and nourishing our bodies? Are we taking a moment to breathe and rest when needed? Are we serving others and caring for the least among us? What are we doing to nourish our spiritual lives? Do we pray or meditate or seek out community with others? Maybe we need to ask if we are doing enough to love our neighbor, but maybe we need to ask ourselves if we are doing what we can to love ourselves. We must find a balance of time, attention, focus and intention. There is a lot to juggle in these lives we live.

I've been thinking a lot recently about the idea of balance in our lives and the idea that something is 'bittersweet'. Sometimes we think of this in relation to chocolate, but it can also mean "pleasure accompanied by suffering or regret." Life will have its ups and downs. It will give us both challenge and joy. It can be both bitter and sweet at the exact same time.

My nephew is graduating from High School in May, and my sister has used the term "bittersweet" a few times. There are so many lasts when you have a senior.

We have two high school graduates here at HPPC! Congrats to Ian and Aidan!

We also have one college graduate...congrats to Steven!

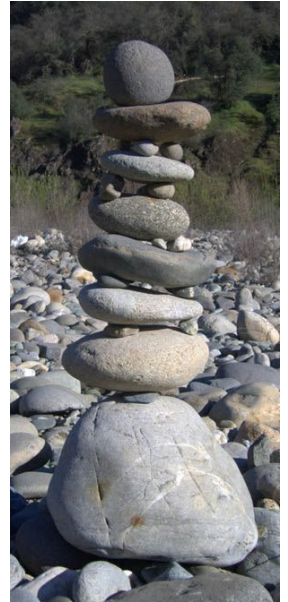
Watching our kids grow up and head off into this big world is bittersweet. We will miss having them come through the door so often, but this is what we have been preparing them for all their lives! We are sad and proud. We are happy and yet grieving. It is a bittersweet time.

There is a lot in life that could be seen as bittersweet. We have come to the end of our Easter season and will enter into ordinary time in our church calendar. Yet each Sunday is a celebration of the resurrection. Each time we gather at the table, we remember the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. With life comes death. With love comes grief. There is a balance to so many things.

As we head into this summer season, I invite you to continue to seek balance. If you feel weighed down by the troubles of the world or by your own personal circumstance, seek out joy and community. Seek out connection.

Peace to you all,

Emily





Monthly Giving Report

Volunteer Calendar May 2026

Date	Refreshments	Liturgist	Communion
3	Kathryn	Tommy	Set Up: Kathryn Serve: Kathryn & Gary
10	Emily Owen	Henry	
17	Kathy & Alan	Alan	
24	Karen	Karen	
31	Kandy	Lindsey H.	

Financial Report



It is through the seeds of faith that we grow.

March 2026	
Plate Income:	\$6,651.01
Other Income:	\$3,521.96
Expenses:	\$6,805.67
Total:	\$3,367.30



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 April 7th and April 28th, 39 people received groceries.

Updated Directory Coming Soon

The new church directory is almost complete and should be out soon. Should you have any last minute changes or updates, please contact Kathryn prior to it being distributed. Our directory is a wonderful way for us to keep in touch with one another and we look forward to the latest version.



MAY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 May Day	2 Emily Eyob's Birthday
3 HOB World Laughter Day	4	5 Food Pantry Cinco de Mayo ASH	6 Nat'l. Nurses Day	7 Nat'l. Day of Prayer	8	9
10 Luncheon Mother's Day	11	12 Food Pantry ASH	13	14	15 Int'l. Day of Families	16 Int'l. Day of Living Together in Peace
17 Henry Owen's & Silas Savitsky's Birthdays ASH	18	19 Food Pantry ASH	20	21 Sam & Monique Paisley's Anniversary	22	23 Luke Ramirez's Birthday
24 Start of Pentecost	25 Reid Laffere's Birthday Memorial Day	26 Sarah Kercheval's Birthday Food Pantry ASH	27	28	29	30
31						



Nurses give of themselves to tend to us when most needed and are the heart of healthcare. Thank a nurse for their dedication and compassion on National Nurses Day **MAY 6TH!**



John Lennon said "Imagine all the people living life in peace." You can help that become a global reality on International Day of Living Together in Peace **MAY 16TH!**



Pause for a moment to honor all those who have given their lives to protect us especially during our current turmoil on Memorial Day **MAY 25TH!**



Church Happenings



April Session Highlights

- Doris presented the January financial report. The bank balance is good. The Proctor and Gamble stock has continued to decrease in value. Doris would like for the session to consider selling it.
- Lindsey Hulstrom wishes to become an affiliate member of our church. An affiliate member is a member of another church who has temporarily moved to another location and has been received by the session. An affiliate member may participate in the life of the church but may not vote in congregational meetings or be elected to the session.
- Lindsey met with the session and told us her faith journey. She was welcomed to the church as an affiliate member and will be presented to the congregation during worship on April 26th.
- Worship numbers for March are as follows:

March 1:	26
March 8:	26
March 15:	24
March 22:	25
March 29:	25
- Emily will help lead Camp Braveheart at John Knox Ranch in June.
- Esther sent out 13 cards in March. Thank you, Esther, as always.
- We have termites on the property. After much discussion, it was decided to have ABC Pest Control treat all buildings and stairs. Gary will contact them.
- Karen will contact her representative at Chase Bank about setting up a meeting with a financial advisor about getting two names on our stock account.
- It is time to do an internal audit of the church books. Henry will organize that.
- Emily will make up memory cards for the congregation to fill out for our time capsule which will be buried in June.
- There will be no luncheon in May as it is Mother's Day.
- The next session meeting will be on August 16th after worship.



Guess Who Part I



Mother's Day is always a reminder of the innumerable ways our lives were influenced by and we are appreciative of the women who have held our hands throughout our lives and whose selflessness shaped us into who we are.

This year, some of the moms of our congregation who are so loved were gracious enough to share childhood photos of themselves for a game of "Guess Who." The pictures are placed randomly with numbers followed by a reveal. I hope you enjoy glimpses of some of the loveliest ladies we know as children and good luck.



No. 1



No. 2



No. 3



No. 4



Guess Who Part II



No. 5



No. 6



No. 7



No. 8



No. 9



Guess Who Part III



No. 10



No. 11



No. 12



No. 13



The Grand Finale



Thank you again to all the magnificent moms who shared childhood pictures and for showing us glimpses of what life was like when you were young.

Each of you, including those we didn't get photos from, are inspirations. Your personalities shine and it is obvious that each of you were meant to be the loving moms you are.

I enjoyed this very much and hope you do too. Below is who each precious baby is in order according to the number:

1. Elise Ramirez
2. Doris Lowe
3. Ann Brizendine
4. Emily Owen
5. Kandy Savitsky
6. Monique Paisley
7. Linda Bourianoff
8. Anna Tapsak
9. Karen Laffere
10. Kathy Constant
11. Emily Eyob
12. Elsa Aleman
13. Michelle Bourianoff

Wishing you a magnificent Mother's Day. It is beyond deserved.

P.S. As lovely as you were as children, you are all even more beautiful now.

