



HYDE PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 2024 Church Mouse



Dear HPPC Family,

One of my favorite children's book authors is Byrd Baylor. She wrote a book called *The Table Where Rich People Sit*. In the book, the main character is named Mountain Girl. She "knows her family doesn't have enough money. But as the family sits around their scratched-up kitchen table and discusses the subject, her parents say they're *rich*. Don't her parents see her worn-out shoes or the patches on her little brother's pants?

They begin to count up the value of the things they have. How much is it worth to be able to see the sky all day and feel the wind and smell the coming rain? Or to watch a cactus bloom or to sleep outside under the stars?" (Simon & Schuster Summary) After a while, Mountain Girl begins to realize her family may be rich after all.

As we enter this stewardship season, I think it is important to come from a place of abundance. If we start with scarcity, we may trick ourselves into thinking we have nothing to give. However, when we stop, gather around the table and consider the many gifts God has bestowed upon us, we are sure to have many options when it comes to giving to Christ's ministry...giving of ourselves, our time, our talents, our labor and our money.

I have read many articles on stewardship and one perspective has stuck with me. This perspective says that stewardship is a role, giving is an act and generosity is an attitude or intention. In Biblical times, a steward was tasked with managing the finances and household affairs for their master. In more modern language, we might understand the role of steward similar to the role of manager. In order to manage the gifts we have been given and use them to God's glory, we must be diligent in taking inventory of them. We must gather at the table – whether it is the Lord's Table or our scratched-up dining room tables – and take time to account for our many, many blessings with gratitude to God.

Then, aware of our wealth from God, we must maintain generous attitudes and embark in giving. It will not look the same for each of us, but it will be exactly what Christ's ministry needs.

May it be so.

Love, Emily



Monthly Giving Report



Volunteer Calendar November 2024

Date	Usher	Refreshments	Liturgist	Communion
3	Ross	Ann & Gary	Ann	Set Up: Karen
10	Ross	Leftovers from Holiday Market	Karen	
17	Ross	Emily Eyob	Emily Eyob	
24	Ross	Thanksgiving Luncheon	Kathryn	

Financial Report



It is through the seeds of faith that we grow.

September 2024	
Plate Income:	\$4,290.00
Expenses:	\$6,025.97
Total:	-\$1,735.97



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 October 1st and October 29th, 44 people received groceries.

In this season of stewardship, let us reflect on how we can contribute to the mission of Hyde Park Presbyterian Church through our time and talents. Completing a 'pledge card' helps the session with budget planning and is a great spiritual practice of committing to a ministry that you believe in. Pledge cards can be found at church each Sunday and can be downloaded from the HPPC website under the donate tab. We will collect pledge cards on Sunday November 24th.



NOVEMBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 All Saints Day Wedding	2 All Souls Day
3 Troy Kyles & April Kwon's Anniversary End of Daylight Savings HOB	4	5 Food Pantry Election Day	6	7	8	9 Holiday Market
10 David & Doris Lowe's Anniversary	11 Veterans Day	12 Food Pantry	13 World Kindness Day	14 Kandy Savitsky's Birthday	15 Nat'l. Philanthropy Day Austin Christian	16 Memorial
17 Jerri Lyra's Birthday ASH Session	18	19 Food Pantry	20 Elise Ramirez's Birthday Michael & Anna Tapsak's Anniversary	21 World Hello Day World Philosophy Day	22	23
24 Thanksgiving Luncheon	25	26 Food Pantry	27	28 Margaret Requejo's Birthday Thanksgiving	29 Black Friday	30 Small Business Saturday



Remember to set your clocks back, kick your feet up, relax and enjoy the much needed extra hour of sleep as Daylight Savings ends on **NOVEMBER 3RD!**



Goodwill and generosity go a long way for others and ourselves. Do something kind to foster compassion on World Kindness Day **NOVEMBER 13TH!**



Saying "Hello" goes a long way and is a great way to make a new friend. Say Hello to someone new on World Hello Day **NOVEMBER 21ST!**



Church Happenings



September Session Highlights

- It is time to elect two new elders for the term of 2025-2027. Emily Eyob and Juan will head the Elder Nominating Committee.
 - Welcome to Boram Choi, our seminary student for the fall and spring semesters.
 - The Holiday Market is November 9th from 9-2. Karen has had postcards made to be distributed for advertising and has had the signs for the yard redone.
 - We did not receive the SERVE grant.
 - World Communion is October 6th. A special offering will be taken up that day.
 - Emily will preach at Westminster at 4:00 on October 6th.
 - The Thanksgiving luncheon will be November 24th. A sign-up will be placed in Wooten Hall.
 - There will be no luncheon on November 10th.
 - Esther sent out 13 cards in August.
 - The number of people coming to the food pantry continues to increase which means the amount spent on groceries has increased greatly as well.
 - Karen reported three weddings in October.
 - The dead tree close to the playground will be taken down soon.
 - October is Stewardship month. Emily Eyob will give a Minute for Mission on October 13th and Henry will on October 27th. Pledge cards will be available at the church and on the church website. They will be collected on November 3rd.
- Plans for Advent are in the works.

October Session Highlights

- Just a reminder about the Holiday Market coming up in 3 weeks.
- Emily briefly mentioned the recent Mission Presbytery Meeting. Three churches in the Presbytery have closed.
- Alan continues to work on the “I Live Here, I Give Here” program, which will match donations to the food pantry. The program will take place in March 2025.
- Emily will officiate a wedding on April 12, 2025. The couple wants to have communion served, and the session voted to allow that.
- Emily and Emily Eyob plan an Advent book study. More information to come soon.
- Gary gave information about Mobile Loaves and Fishes which is one of our benevolences.
- Elsa gave information and an update on Presbyterian Children’s Home.
- There will be a memorial on November 16th with a lunch following it.
- Pledge cards will be taken up on November 24th instead of November 3rd.
- The Cantata has been moved to December 22nd.



Upcoming Events



Holiday Market



The Holiday Market is less than two weeks away. It is our chance to support organizations making a difference in the community. There's still time to help us help them. Invite everyone you know to come, buy and sell raffle tickets, volunteer your time on November 9th, bake goods, and shop.

Thanksgiving Luncheon



We welcome everyone to our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 24th. We hope to see you, your friends, family and ask you to invite those who may be spending Thanksgiving alone. You are welcome to bring anything meaningful or special to you on this day. Below are some items that are usually needed.


- Turkey and ham
- Gravy
- Stuffing of any kind
- Potatoes (mashed or sweet)
- Vegetables (green beans, squash, carrots etc.)
- Cranberries or cranberry sauce
- Rolls
- Pies (pumpkin or pecan)

There is a sign-up sheet in Wooten Hall. Feel free to contact Karen Laffere or Emily Owen via email to let them know what you plan to bring.



Blessings


As the holiday season nears and Stewardship season begins, it is time to reflect upon everything we are grateful for, the good fortune in our lives and what we have to give to others. Here are some inspiring messages about blessings and their importance in our lives.



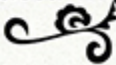
"Don't just count your blessings. Be the blessing other people count on."

—Anonymous

No one can block, the Blessings that God has for you.



Always keep your head up, because if it's down you won't be able to see the Blessings that have been placed in your life.




Stay humble, work hard, and be kind - you will be blessed beyond what you could imagine.

EVERY SUNRISE IS A BLESSING, A GIFT FOR JUST TODAY. REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT.



"Blessed are they who see beautiful things in humble places where other people see nothing."

—Camille Pissarro

What seems to us as bitter trials are often blessings in disguise



Oscar Wilde

Count your BLESSINGS.
Hug your BLESSINGS.
BE A BLESSING.



Thank You Emily



We are incredibly grateful to have Emily Owen as our pastor. Emily spends a great deal of time preparing her sermons which are based on scripture but also relate to our everyday lives.

Emily is not only our pastor but is devoted to John Knox Ranch, the mother of two active boys, is involved in groups for pastors and is a substitute teacher as well. Wow! What can't she do?

HPPC is lucky to have Emily Owen as our pastor. She will come home early from a vacation to perform a wedding, help a grieving family mourn the loss of a loved one and is always on call to be a listening ear.

Emily is fun, sweet, relatable and goes above and beyond to bring in new faces to HPPC.

The smile on Emily's face is the same one we all have feeling so blessed to have her as our pastor. Everyone at HPPC is incredibly grateful, not just on Pastor Appreciation Day, but every day for Emily Owen.

Thank you again for all you do.