

*Hillside Presbyterian Church
Always Welcomes You!*



**Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday
January 29, 2017**

*“The main purpose in life is to glorify God and to enjoy God forever.”
- The Book of Confession (PCUSA)*

Hillside Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
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Pastor E-mail: oliverkofi3@gmail.com
Pastor Lonnie Oliver, Interim Pastor

Hillside Presbyterian Church

January 29, 2017

Order of Worship

Lay Reader: Megan Groomes

Interim Pastor/Teacher: Rev. Dr. Lonnie "Kofi" Oliver

Liturgist: Randy Groomes

Choir Director/Organist: Mr. DeBron Delk

LET US APPROACH GOD

PRELUDE *Jesus Paid It All* *arr. James Pethel*

PROCESSIONAL (CHOIR ENTERS IN SILENCE)

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GREETING & OPENING PRAYER FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Pastor Oliver

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalms 124:8* Randy Groomes

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*OPENING HYMN Lift Every Voice and Sing *No. 540, AAHH*

CALL TO CONFESSION Pastor Oliver

PRAYER OF CORPORATE CONFESSION (unison) led by Pastor Oliver

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Pastor Oliver

*RESPONSE TO PARDON *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.*

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. [Repeat this line 2 times more]

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

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WELCOME AND PASSING THE PEACE Pastor Oliver

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LET US LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Elder Sarah Vaughan

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

led by Megan Groomes

O God, by your Spirit tell us what we need to hear, and show us what we ought to do, to obey Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Chronicles 1:1-13 (p. 369)

Megan Groomes

CHORAL SELECTION

Close to Thee

arr. R. E. Wooten, Sr.

NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 12:1-2 (p. 151)

Pastor Oliver

*GOSPEL

Matthew 26:36-46 (p. 29)

Pastor Oliver

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MESSAGE

“Discerning the Will of God”

Pastor Oliver

LET US RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*(Joining Hillside and following JESUS. Persons desiring to unite with Hillside can:
1) Come to the front of the church during the Invitational Hymn 2) Talk with the pastor
3) Contact the liturgist or congregant assisting in the pulpit 4) Call Denise at 404.289.3092.)*

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

No. 449, AAHH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

led by Randy Groomes

Leader: What is justification?

All: Justification is an act of God’s free grace, wherein he pardoneth all our sins, and accepteth us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

Leader: What is adoption?

All: Adoption is an act of God’s free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges, of the sons of God.

Leader: What is sanctification?

All: Sanctification the work of God’s free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin and live unto righteousness.

Leader: What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification?

All: The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification are: assurance of God’s love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance therein to the end.

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GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

Praise Him

No. 172, AAHH

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Doxology

No. 651, AAHH

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Oliver

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor Oliver

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

LET US RETURN TO GOD’S WORLD

*CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor Oliver

(*Indicates those who are able will stand)
(####Indicates Ushers will seat persons arriving late)

THE WORSHIP ENDS – THE SERVICE BEGINS

Acolyte: Denaja Lewis

Ushers: Lelia Crawford, Shirley Anderson, Norma McKenzie, Dorothy Hill

Media Specialist: Justin Killings

Ministers: All Hillside Members



SOME PERSPECTIVES ON DISCERNMENT AND COMMUNITY

The Nature of Discernment

Discernment is much broader, deeper than simply a decision making process. It is...

An attitude...a cultivation of...

- sensitivity to the presence of God
- “taste” for the things of God

An act...a...

- sifting out...sorting...unmasking
- growing into a sense of God’s gracious, freeing presence
- noticing of God’s inner leadings
- prayerful listening
- prayerful decision making
- humble yielding of control

{ Adapted from notes of Shaun McCarty, *Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation* }

The ultimate aim of discernment is not just a decision. At times it is not a decision at all. It is, rather, an ongoing growth in freedom to live wholly from, and wholly for, the love of the living God.

A group that practices communal discernment is on a journey into a way of being together in the presence of God...and it seeks to live the fruits of that presence back into the world.

“Somehow...we have separated the will of God from God, and discernment has come to mean a search for God’s will which we must find in a game of hide-and-seek. We often equate discernment with a skill which we must master rather than the gift of God’s love which guides us home to Love.”

-Rose Mary Dougherty, Group Spiritual Direction: Community for Discernment

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH & COMMUNITY

*(Bulletin Submission Deadline: Wednesdays, *3:00 p.m.; Church Office Closed 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.)
Announcements received after this time will be held for the next bulletin cycle. Other items will not be included.

PLEASE BE COURTEOUS

Turn off and put away ALL mobile phones and any other devices with audible tones.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Chancel today are given by **Marjorie Oban & Tennille Akinrele**, to the glory of God.

WOMEN'S DAY CHOIR REHEARSAL

TODAY, immediately after church, in the Choir Room. All women of the church are invited to begin rehearsing songs for Women's Day. We need your voices to make a joyful noise. Rehearsals will be held **each Sunday, immediately following Worship Service, through March 12 AND; also on two Saturdays (TBA).**

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – TODAY!

One member of the congregation will be elected to serve on the Officer Nominating Committee.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH KICK-OFF PROGRAM

Christian Education will sponsor a program featuring excerpts from James Weldon Johnson's "God's Trombones". This event is a fundraiser that benefits the scholarship fund of the Samuel H. Johnson SSSP Foundation. It is scheduled for **4:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 4, 2017**, in the **Sanctuary at Hillside**. Dr. Webster Wallace is the producer. *(Note that there will be a rehearsal on Friday, February 3, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in addition to any others that may be scheduled.)*

EARTH CARE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

This committee will meet on **Sunday, February 5, immediately following Worship Service, in Room 9**. Those interested in joining this group are welcome to join us!

GREATER ATLANTA PRESBYTERY

The next Presbytery Meeting will be held on Saturday, February 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., at Trinity Presbyterian Church – Atlanta (3003 Howell Mill Road, Atlanta 30327). It will be a joint meeting with Cherokee Presbytery.

LAMP SYMPOSIUM – A REMINDER FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED

LAMP's third annual symposium will be held **at the Historic Academy of Medicine at Georgia Tech** (875 West Peachtree St. NW, Atlanta 30309) on **Monday, February 6, 2017, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.** It will include a film screening and discussion with the directors of *After Spring*, a documentary on the Syrian refugee crisis executive produced by Jon Stewart and directed by Ellen Martinez and Stephanie Ching. A series of afternoon workshops will provide resources on broader issues of immigration and refugee resettlement. Parking is available in the Academy of Medicine lot. The building is wheelchair accessible. **The registration deadline for this event has passed.**

EARTH CARE – ANOTHER (BRIEF) MEETING

This one will be held on **Wednesday, February 8 at 11:30 a.m.**, in the **Session Room**.

FIELD TRIP: CENTER FOR CIVIL & HUMAN RIGHTS

This trip has been rescheduled for Saturday, February 25.

CURTIS PARKER MEMORIAL BREAKFAST

This annual breakfast, which marks the end of the Black History Month celebration activities at Hillside, will be held at **8:59 a.m.** on **Sunday, February 26**, in the **Fellowship Hall**.

GIVE FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP

This is a great way to give glory to God and give thanks. Consider giving flowers to coincide with remembrances and celebrations, such as birthdays, anniversaries, the birthday of a family member or friend, graduations, awards, promotions, and the like. Sign-up on the Flower Chart in the Narthex. The Worship Ministry usually obtains the flowers, but if you would like to get them yourself, then please inform us. **\$45 should be placed in the offering plate, with a designation for “chancel flowers” on your offering envelope or check. If you would like to personalize your flower message for the bulletin, then please forward it to Denise (hillspc@bellsouth.net) by 3:00 p.m. of the preceding Wednesday.** Following worship, you are welcome to take the flowers home. If you do not want them, they will be distributed.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 12:00PM TO 1:00PM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

An e-mail was sent to the congregation informing of this change. You are strongly encouraged to plan your trips to the office accordingly, as NO project support, building access, nor any other form of assistance will be provided during this stated hour. This new schedule has been put into place to ensure that staff is able to commence and conclude a 30-minute uninterrupted lunch break during this timeframe. Thanks for understanding.

PASTOR’S SCHEDULE & APPOINTMENTS

The pastor has a **flexible, part-time schedule** of 19 hours each week (hours are subject to change). Contact Denise at hillspc@bellsouth.net **OR** 404.289.3092, to schedule an appointment **OR**; contact the pastor directly, at 404.798.8069, if the matter is urgent.

GEORGE W. BURNETTE III

He thanks everyone for the hospital visits, phone calls, cards and letters wishing him well, during his illness.

NORM FIKES

Norm is home following successful surgery on his leg. He is doing well and appreciates your prayers, calls, and messages and ask that you keep them coming. Additionally, he can now have visitors.

MESSAGE FROM REVEREND CONNIE LEE

“Dear Hillside Family, your prayers, concern and kind expressions mean so much to us during this sad time. Thank you for caring about us as we grieve the death of our granddaughter, Diamond. Your kindness is a blessing and so are you. We solicit your continued prayers. Gratefully yours, Connie & Gentle Lee.”

2017 – Theme – Seeing What God Sees for Hillside

Excerpts from *Become a Sailboat Church* by Joan Gray

Sailboat churches require spiritual leaders.

Spiritual leaders are people who help others to seek and do God's will. They are passionate about God and live toward the goal of having God firmly seated at the center of their lives and of their church. They want God to be the one who shapes their desires, their decisions, and their actions. They have a lively relationship with a God, who is always doing a new thing. This is the heartbeat of sailing congregations.

These spirituals leaders, both clergy and laity, know that any authority they bear is delegated to them by Jesus. They know better than to lead by doing what seems right in their own eyes. Rather they look to him through his Spirit to set the course, enable them to navigate, and provide the resources they need to keep sailing. Without this kind of Spirit-attuned leadership, it is unlikely that any church will sail...

Sailboat churches take spiritual realities and resources seriously.

We do live in a material world. However, Sailboat congregations know that spiritual realities are just as real as material ones. God is a force to be reckoned with. God has the ability (and the will) to influence people and things to fulfill divine purposes. Sailboat churches know that no earthly lack or circumstance can tie the hands of God. The adventures of Sailboat churches often push them beyond the wisdom, money, and abilities they have. That does not stop them. If a congregation is doing mission in such a way that it is never challenged beyond its own resources, it is rowing instead of sailing. In the Sailboat church, as people pray and act in faith, the Holy Spirit draws forth the resources necessary for them to do what God truly wants them to do. The God who calls is the God who provides.

Sailboat churches live to sail.

In marinas all around the world there are boats that seldom leave the dock. They remain tied up there, perhaps used as places to entertain or relax, even to live on, but their sails are rarely raised. They hardly ever engage the wind in the partnership of sailing. So it is with many churches. They have beautiful buildings, run programs that are of educational and therapeutic value to the people who attend, and may engage in a variety of good works. However they seldom cast off, raise the sails, and allow the Holy Spirit to move them away from the dock and out into the world...

Please pray for, call or visit:

Georgia Brown
Sharon Bryant
Margaret Burgess – Melba Durr’s mother
George W. Burnette III – recovering from surgery
Keisha Burnette
Rosalynd Colquitt – cousin of Sharon Howell – breast cancer
Diane Craig – sister-in-law of Beth Burnette
Donald Craig – brother of Beth Burnette
Curtis Crawford – brother of Bernice Brantley
Keisha Davis – niece of Sharon Howell – breast cancer
Daniel Delk – father of DeBron Delk
Antonio Durns – nephew of Erma Killings
John & Lutricia Elmore – John is in rehab
Faye & Norm Fikes – Norm recovering from surgery
Alison, Askari & Ava Foy
Dorothy & Verdis Gholston – sister & brother-in-law of Erma Killings
Verdis "Jay" Gholston, Jr. – nephew of Erma Killings
Eloise Bobo Hargrove
Zoe – Rev. Marinda Harris’ granddaughter

Monica Hopson – stage 4 breast cancer
Ima Horne – friend of the Howell family
Ben Jackson, Jr. – nephew of Betsy Johnson
Marvis McDaniel Ivey & Marcus Ivey
Christopher Johnson – nephew of Rev. Robert Howell
Raymie Malloy & family
Bill Mayweather
Miller family – for recent losses & healing
Brenda Mitchell – sister of Raymie Malloy
Moolenaar family
Anne Morris – Keisha Burnette’s mother
Fatimah Muhammed – daughter of Lena Jefferson
Walter Murray
Patricia Osborne – sister of Shirley Anderson
Elaine Reid – prayers for healing
Mary Sealy – sister of George W. Burnette III
Reverend Dr. Joseph E. Thompson Sr.
Rosa Walker – sister of Erma Killings

*(If there are names that you would like to ADD to OR REMOVE from this list,
please contact Denise before 3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays – hillspc@bellsouth.net or 404.289.3092)*

Session/Ministry Organization for 2017

Moderator	Rev. Dr. Lonnie J. Oliver
Clerk of Session	Elder Willie Anthony
Treasurer	Elder Alice Moore
Administration	Elder Castell Jackson
Christian Education	Elder Rosalind McIntyre
Congregational Care	Elder Deloris Bryant-Booker (not on Session)
Evangelism	Elders Faye Fikes & Justin Killings
Social Outreach	Elder Myra Miller, Chair & Willie Anthony
Worship	Elder Lelia Crawford
Officer Nominating Committee - Session:	Elder Doug Kinsey, Chair & Elder Faye Fikes

Other Assignments

Commissioners to Presbytery	Elders Faye Fikes & Sonja McMullen
Officer Nominating Committee - Congregation:	Elders Willie Hinton & Sonja McMullen