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The MESSENGER

The Hope of Easter in Challenging Times

It's easy to get caught up in a moment, or a season of life, and call it "the best ever" or the "most difficult ever" and so forth. Hyperbole is easy to succumb to.

We do it with people all the time and debate who is the best athlete/violinist/dancer/etc., ever. I don't know if the last two years have been one of the darkest seasons "ever" or not, but it certainly has a lot that puts it in the conversation: pandemic, racial relations, a nation deeply divided over politics, and now a war between Russia and Ukraine that could escalate to another "World War."

If WW3 actually happened, it would (obviously) make those times even worse. I pray it doesn't happen, and I can hardly believe I just wrote the previous sentence. It's a scary thought. But that's the world we live in right now.

Yet into this very moment, God brings us hope. In the midst of our own personal struggles, pain, grief, and more: God brings us hope. That's what the resurrection of Jesus is all about. Because Jesus' resurrection has already happened, the hope it gives for the future is sure and certain. Usually, "hope" has some degree of uncertainty associated with it: "I hope I get this new job"; "I hope I did enough to get an 'A' in this class" and so forth.

But Jesus' resurrection – which is already done, "It is finished" as he says from the cross – gives us hope that is grounded in a completed event. And really, the event isn't just his resurrection. The resurrection validates the event of his life: his birth, his teaching, his miracles, and his death on the cross. It's all an event; the empty tomb validates it all, giving us hope that is found in Jesus.

So, whatever the world throws at us – from global events to personal anxieties, tears, or pain – even if whatever it is feels like it's "the worst ever," there is a sure and certain hope that God gives us in Jesus and his resurrection. That is what has the last word – not all the other stuff. That makes this resurrection hope the best news ever - and that's not up for debate.

May you know this sure and certain hope in your life today, and live into it in such a way that others would be drawn to Jesus as well.

Your Pastor,

Brian



RHKIDZ

Gwen North, Children's and Family Ministry Director

Volunteers Are Needed for this Year's VBS Event! 😊

"HayDay" VBS will be June 27 and 28. Please contact the RHChurch Childrens and Family Ministry Director at gwen@rosehillpc.org to share availability!!!

Get everyone crowin' about VBS! At HayDay, kids will be up to their elbows in farmin' fun as they explore one simple Bible truth: Jesus will always love us!



RHC Logo Merchandise is now available for order! Wearing a RHC sweatshirt or t-shirt is cool. Order one and you will rule. Enjoy the sun! Have some fun!

Orders must be in by April 27th. Fill out an order form and write a check to Rose Hill Church. Attach the check to your order form and hand them to Gwen at church or mail them to the church.

Enjoy the shirt and avoid the dirt, order today:)

www.rosehill.church/whats-happening

ISAIAH

The Monday Evening Discipleship Class has started an interactive study of Isaiah. There is no book to purchase, no homework during the week, and no DVD to watch. But we all participate. We read a short section of Scripture, write a summary of what we read, what the purpose and meaning might be, and what application it might have for our lives, and then discuss our discoveries. Join us at 7 pm on Zoom with Bible, pen/pencil, and paper at hand. Contact Linda Holbrook with questions: Lwholbrook2003@yahoo.com or text/call 425-681-2088.

RH YOUTH

Paul Hudson, Director of EmERGE Youth Group

EmERGE Spring

Nice weather is coming which means more outdoor youth activities than indoor! Be sure to stay up to date with my weekly emails as I will most likely make the call to meet outside at a park on the day of youth group if the weather is great. With the loosening of restrictions, I am aiming to have extra youth activities, but I do want to be sensitive to testing requirements for unvaccinated kids, so I will try to keep those types of activities every other month or so for now, so as not to create too much of a burden on families needing to constantly acquire test kits.

We are busy preparing for Youth Sunday May, 15th, our first fully live service in 3 years! Be sure to save the date! This year the kids have settled on the theme of peace, related to mental health and the struggles of being a young person in the world today. I am excited to hear from them and get a glimpse into their lives— please be sure to come and support our youth, you will not regret it!!

Coming up next month: Easter Sunday is April 17th. We will continue our tradition of an egg drop competition, more details to come!

No youth group on Wednesday, April 6th during Spring Break.

April 29th (Friday night): youth outing TBD.



ROSE HILL
CHURCH
SCHOLARSHIP

It's spring! And, belatedly, time for students to consider filling out the application for the Rose Hill scholarship. Deadline extended to April 15th.

Members and regular attenders of Rose Hill Presbyterian Church who are pursuing education beyond high school at accredited institutions that are non-profit organizations under IRS 501(c)(3) provisions are eligible to apply for scholarships. Studies must lead toward a degree or certification.

www.rosehill.church/youth

FELLOWSHIP & DISCIPLESHIP

Women's Ministry Spring Tea

Saturday, **May 7th**, 12:00pm - 2:00pm
In the Fellowship Hall



Open to all women & girls of all ages. \$5 for women over 18, Free for girls 17 and under! (Financial assistance available)



Bring your mom, sister, daughter, grandma, granddaughter, aunt, niece, and best friend! We will be wrapping up our Year-of-Connection with talking about encouragement. Wear your Saturday's best for pictures with your tribe at our special photo booth! Please (bring your own) BYO teacup to the party.

Signups begin April 10th and will be at the Information Desk in the lobby at church or online at WM@rosehillpc.org. (Even though youth & kids are free, please sign them up so we can plan for enough tea and treats. Thanks) We hope to see you there!

Teacup Ministry



The Teacup Ministry is starting up again. Our first event will be a Luncheon on Thursday, **May 19th**, from 12:00pm - 2:00pm in the Social Hall where Ron Lince will bless us with his famous Waffles.

Biblically, the Diaconate was founded to take care of widows in a fast-growing church (Acts 6:1-7). At Rose Hill Church, the Teacup Ministry has become the arm of the Deacons for meeting some of the needs of our single (widowed, divorced, never-married) adult women. It has taken many forms in the past 20 or so years and was active until COVID stopped our meeting together. Now, after a 2-year hiatus, we are seeking to find out what are the needs of single women in our "new normal."

If you are an adult single woman who considers Rose Hill your church home (whether a covenant partner or attender), please come to our luncheon to connect with others, learn about ideas we have for the future of this ministry, and to offer your own ideas. The sign up sheet will be in the narthex after Easter.

Contact Linda Holbrook at 425-681-2088 or lwholbrook2003@yahoo.com with questions or ideas.



SESSION

Jim Peterson, Clerk of Session

Our Session met on March 8th for their monthly stated meeting to discern God's will for His church at Rose Hill.

The primary business in the meeting was continuing the discussion of direction and vision for the church using the insights, lessons, and tools gained during the leadership workshop of February 11-13. A new vision statement is being prepared along with both short-term and longer-term objectives and plans. These are currently in the formative stage with Pastor Brian and the elders working on them both during and between Session meetings. They are excited about getting these things well defined and written down so they can be shared with all of us soon.

The other main item of business relates to our financial operations. Our church treasurer Leslie Thompson let us know that she will be resigning from that position by the end of April. Dave Cram, Director of Finance, proposed engaging an accounting firm to do the work of bookkeeping, payroll, and accounts payable that Leslie has been doing, and the Session approved that proposal. The accounting firm has been chosen and the transition will begin as soon as possible so that Leslie can stop working by the date she has requested.

The financial reports for January and February are not available at the time of writing this news report, so you'll see that information in a future report.

Please continue to pray for our pastors, elders, deacons, and all the church staff members as they lead us in the ongoing work of God's Kingdom.

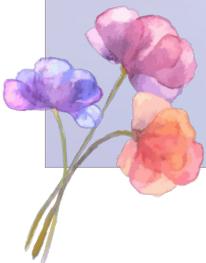
In Christ,
Jim Peterson

DEACONS

Jan Mathis, Moderator

Welcome New Deacons!

The Rose Hill Deacons are excited to welcome four new deacons to our group. They are Sandy Adair, Marilyn Campbell, Telly Roderick, and Julie Wolfe. On March 3 these new deacons came to the church for new deacon training. We talked, we laughed, we prayed, and we learned from each other. We had training from Pastor Rob on how to serve communion to those who are unable to attend church and heard about topics like confidentiality, how to conduct a visit, how to submit expenditures, and the deacon monthly prayer list. The new deacons learned that in the deacon's manual it says that the deacons fulfill their elected duties to "...minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress, both within and beyond the community of faith." If anyone needs visits or phone calls from a deacon please let us know by calling or e-mailing Jan Mathis, Deacon Moderator, at janmathis1@gmail.com or 425-268-1608.



GLOBAL OUTREACH



Kevin and Sarah Johnson (Alina and Lycia) It is often said that when God closes a door, He opens a window. We don't always know what that window will show us right away, but He knows the need and He knows how we can best serve. This report from Sarah Johnson illustrates this.

"Since moving to the U.S. last summer for Kevin to study at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, I (Sarah) have been thinking about life-giving ways to continue my ministry, even though I no longer officially work for Deditos. The opportunity arose to partner with other women on Trinity's campus to launch a weekly children's Bible club using Deditos videos and lessons.

I hope this will be a great opportunity to disciple children of Trinity students, mentor moms who want to grow in their ability to teach the Bible and raise awareness among the whole Trinity community about the Deditos materials. Many of those who will participate in the group are international families from various countries in Asia, Africa, and Europe.

The launch was Monday, January 31! About 35 kids and 15 parents attended the kickoff. Since then we've had solid attendance at the weekly classes. Three moms have already taught lessons and did an excellent job. I see the kids genuinely learning and growing through the activities. Praise God!"



Brian and Brooke Johnson (Asia, Leif, Slater, Skye) are finally in Mexico! They praise God for a very uneventful border crossing, and that they were able to get the maximum length tourist visa (180 days). Dear friends/co-workers met them in Texas and helped bring them down. They also introduced them to local food stand bacon-wrapped burritos. Delicious! And they are really celebrating having a house (not having had one to themselves for over two years). Praise for a local Christian businessman who decided to rent one of his houses at a discount to Ethnos360 Missionaries!

The whole family is now completing formal Culture & Language study. The kids get as much regular homeschooling done as they can in the morning, and then family Spanish sessions in the afternoon...and then they have to finish the rest of their homeschool whenever they can. Brian says, "Honestly, trying to balance their regular education while diving into learning a new language and culture as a family is crazy! But, we really believe that it will be worth it, if our whole family is able to learn to communicate and develop relationships in the language."

April Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Erin Hackwith | 13 Shannon Sweatte |
| 6 Bruce Mateer | 17 Linnie Byrd |
| 7 Roy McIntosh | 18 Janelle Phibbs |
| 8 Sue Mateer | 20 Barbara Kull |
| 12 Linda Muilenburg | |

Happy Birthday! 🎂

FACILITIES

Dan Wolfe, Facilities Director



FACILITIES WORK PARTY
April 9, 9am-12pm
Let's join together to maintain our amazing church home!
Thank you for your servant's heart!




MEN'S MONDAY NIGHT BASKETBALL IS BACK!!!
RH CHURCH GYM 8:00 PM

April Anniversaries

- 8 Bob & Betty Lovett

Happy Anniversary! 🌸

Weekly

- | | | |
|----|---------|---------------------------------|
| M | 11:00am | Staff Meeting (2nd & 4th Mon) |
| | 6:15pm | BSF |
| | 7:00pm | Online Discipleship Class |
| | 8:00 pm | Men's Monday Night Basketball |
| T | 9:30am | Online LOL Bible Study |
| | 6:30pm | Worship Team Practice |
| W | 6:30pm | RHC Youth Group |
| TH | 10:00am | Men's Coffee |
| | 6:30pm | Choir Practice (Choir is back!) |
| | 8:00pm | Bells Practice |
| SU | 9:30am | Modern Service |
| | 11:00am | Traditional Service |

Group Prayer Time every 1st & 3rd Thursday each month at 7:00pm on Zoom, led by Hailey North. Praying for a variety of things, but with a focus on our church: our ministries, our future, our transformation.

April Dates: 7 & 21

The Zoom link is sent out in our weekly all-church email.



April Calendar

- 1- 3 Women's Retreat
- 4 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- 7 7:00pm Group Prayer
- 9 9:00am Work Party
- 10 Palm Sunday
- 12 7:00pm Session
- 14 11:40am RHC Momz Bible Study
- 6:00pm Maundy Thursday
- 17 Easter Sunday
- 19 7:00pm Deacons Meeting
- 21 7:00pm Group Prayer
- 28 11:40am RHC Momz Bible Study

HOLY WEEK

April 10 Palm Sunday, Palm Parade
 9:30am Modern Service
 11:00am Traditional Service

April 14 Maundy Thursday
 6:00pm In-Person & Online

April 17 Easter Sunday
 9:30am Modern Service
 11:00am Traditional Service

Happy Resurrection Day!