

Church Phone No.: (856)456-3364  
 Church Fax No.: (856)456-3812

# Highland Park Church of God

## A New Life Fellowship

“Connected in Christ, Serving in Spirit, Growing in New Life Together”



Pastor Bill e-mail: revwddilksjr@juno.com  
 Pastor Deb e-mail: debconner824@gmail.com  
 Office e-mail: highlandparkcog@yahoo.com  
 Web Site: www.highlandparkcog.org

District Website: www.chogeast.org  
 National Website: www.chog.org



April 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  Easter Sunday	2 (2 Samuel 5)	3 (2 Samuel 6) 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study (Fred) Making Sandwiches for SHAN	4 (2 Samuel 7) 6:30 PM Embrace Grace	5 (2 Samuel 8) 7:00 PM Grief Share	6 (2 Samuel 9) 8:00 AM Ladies' Prayer	7 (2 Samuel 10) 10:00 AM DVFP
8 (2 Samuel 11)	9 (2 Samuel 12) 7:00 PM Ladies' Crafts at Laura's	10 (2 Samuel 13) 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM Ladies' Movie Night at Kumpels'	11 (2 Samuel 14) 6:30 PM Embrace Grace	12 (2 Samuel 15) 9:30-11:00 AM Coffee and Conversation at Lynette's 7:00 PM Grief Share	13 (2 Samuel 16) 8:00 AM Ladies' Prayer <b>Noon Retirees' Lunch</b>	14 (2 Samuel 17) 9:00 AM Men's Breakfast at Westville United Methodist Ch. Pastor Bill Speaking
15 (2 Samuel 18) 11:00 AM Dedication of LilyMae Schepacarter <b>Giving Out Door Hangers</b>	16 (2 Samuel 19)	17 (2 Samuel 20) 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study (Pastor Bill) 7:00 PM Ladies Bible Study at Bonnie's	18 (2 Samuel 21) 6:30 PM Embrace Grace	19 (2 Samuel 22) 1:00 PM Ministerium Meeting 7:00 PM Grief Share	20 (2 Samuel 23) 8:00 AM Ladies' Prayer Seeds of Hope Live Auction in Marlton	21 (2 Samuel 24) <b>Workday at Camp at Cannon Hill</b>
22 (Galatians 1)	23 (Galatians 2)	24 (Galatians 3) 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM Ladies Bible Study at Bonnie's	25 (Galatians 4) 6:30 PM Embrace Grace	26 (Galatians 5) 9:30-11:00 AM Coffee and Conversation at Lynette's 7:00 PM Grief Share	27 (Galatians 6) 8:00 AM Ladies' Prayer	28 (I Kings 1) 9:00 AM District Ministerial Mtg. at Christ Center COG— <b>Ordination of Rev. Debra Conner</b>
29 (I Kings 2) 11:00 AM Ordination Recognition of Pastor Debra Conner 1:00-3:00 PM Celebration Luncheon at Bkln. American Legion Hall	30 (I Kings 3)	<b>*Regular Sunday Schedule:</b> 9:30 AM Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 AM Morning Worship (Including Kids' Church) 3:30-5:00 PM Youth 5:30 PM Choir Practice				



ChurchArt Online | www.churchart.com



FAMILY GYM NIGHT





# FAMILY FUNNIGHT







*Showering Talia and Joe with  
Our Love*



# Bridal Shower





# FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Church Family and Friends,

One of the things that jumps out in our chapter-a-day readings is that power transitions between leaders have never been smooth, uncontested matters in human history. When King Saul died, even though David had been anointed King over Israel, there was war between Saul's family and David for the throne. David tried to make peace with Ish-Bosheth, but Joab killed Abner after a truce had been brokered. Ish-Bosheth was murdered, and the rebellion by Saul's family ended. David also encountered this opposition and attack during his reign from within his own household as his son Absalom rebelled against him and seized the throne for a period of time, until he was killed by General Joab and his men. Then David returned as King and had the support of the people. Near the end of his life Adonijah, his fourth son born to him by David's wife Haggith, sought to seize the throne even though David had promised Bathsheba that Solomon would be the heir to the throne. So rebellion, war, and party spirit have always been a part of our human failings in life. We are warned in Galatians that this divisive and quarrelsome spirit runs counter to the lifestyle that God has always desired to have among His People. In Galatians 5, we see listed evil results from living according to the sinful nature. In contrast, living and walking according to the Spirit's leading will point us toward virtuous outcomes. As we read our chapter-a-day readings from April you can see just how drastically different the outcomes are. The same failings of the human nature existed in the time of David, in the time of Paul, and in our world today. How do we overcome our leaning toward the bad stuff listed in Galatians 5:19 – 21? By living our lives in submission to the Holy Spirit as verses 22-26 exhort us to do. Chapter 6 reinforces the need for this by reminding us that we reap what we sow – if we sow to the flesh or sinful nature, then we reap destruction for our loved ones and ourselves. If we sow to the Spirit, then we will reap eternal life and a harvest of righteousness. The choice is ours – let us choose to live in keeping with God's will and the Holy Spirit's direction and reap the good results that God desires for His Children.

In His Steps,

*Pastor Bill*





## A New Way to Give

**TITHE.LY**

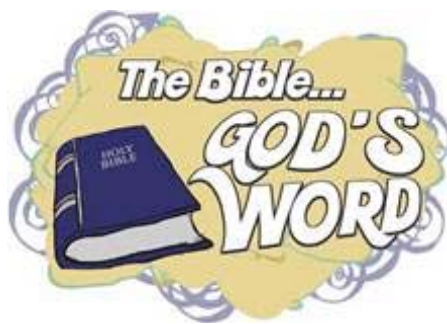
**Download the app from your app store or click the “Give” button on the church website!  
([www.highlandparkcog.org](http://www.highlandparkcog.org))**

It is really simple. Just use your smart phone to download the app and set up your giving through that. If you wish to give using your computer, just go to our church website and click the “Give” button on the top right. This will take you to Tithe.ly where you can set up your account.

When making your gift, please indicate any additional information or the breakdown of your gift **in the memo line**. You will receive an e-mail confirmation for your gift.

As with any credit card or e-transaction, there are transaction fees involved. There is a 30 cent per transaction charge plus a percentage fee that the church will pay. Bank account transactions are assessed a 1% fee, and credit/debit cards are assessed a 2.9% fee. (American Express, 3.5% fee.) These fees are paid by the church unless you click to indicate you would like to cover them. Whatever you decide, you will be credited for the full amount of your gift.

If you need assistance, please contact the church office!



***Chapter-a-Day Bible  
4-Year Bible Reading  
Program ~ April 2018***

*Easter is your choice.*

2 Sam. 5:24  
Galatians 1-6  
1 Kings 1-3



### **Thursday, May 3**

*National Day of Prayer*

11:00 Service at St. Mary's

6:30 PM Service at our Church

7:30 PM Grief Share

### **Saturday, May 12**

Making Breakfast for RMH

### **Monday, May 14**

5:30 PM Trustees' Dinner and  
Meeting at Don's Home

7:00 PM Ladies' Crafts at  
Laura's

The Church of God in the East—District 41  
Cordially Invites You to Attend the

Ordination Service  
Of  
Minister Debra L. Conner.

Saturday, the Twenty-Eighth of April  
Two Thousand and Eighteen  
One Thirty O'Clock in the Afternoon

Christ Center Church of God  
1615 W. Chelton Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19126-3523

*The following day, Sunday, April 29, we will have a special recognition service during our morning worship time. We will celebrate with a luncheon that same day from 1:00-3:00 PM at the Brooklawn American Legion Hall. Please watch your bulletin for further details.*





Ladies' Movie Night at Vicki Kumpel's  
Tuesday, April 10 at 7:00 PM  
"Inn of the Sixth Happiness"



## What If God Doesn't Fix It?

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.

Ladies, we will be spending five weeks in a video series by Laura Story, ***What If God Doesn't Fix It?*** Many of you may know Laura from her song, "Blessings." Laura's life took an unexpected turn when her husband was diagnosed with a brain tumor. The news brought Laura's dreams of a fairy-tale life to an end. Yet it also brought her a deeper intimacy with God as she turned to Him and allowed Him to rewrite her story. We will walk with Laura as she shows us that while God may not fix every broken thing in our lives, He will lead us to a place where we are better because of it. JOIN US...Tuesdays beginning April 17, at 7pm. Bonnie Wood has invited us to meet in her home for this 5-week session.



## Grief Share

Thursdays 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Beginning April 5<sup>th</sup>



Have you lost a loved one, a close friend, or a child? Do you need support in dealing with the loss of someone you love?

Losing someone special, a family member or a close friend, can be difficult. The support of others on a similar journey can bring comfort, nurture, healing. We invite you to a 13-week journey called "Grief Share." The group will meet in the fellowship hall Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM, beginning April 5. There is no cost to participate.

Each week your GriefShare group will watch a video seminar featuring top experts on grief and recovery subjects. After viewing the video, group members will spend time, discussing what was presented in that week's video seminar and what is going on in our lives. During the week you will have the opportunity to use your workbook for further personal study of the grieving process and to help sort out your emotions through journaling.

GriefShare is a nationally recognized program. More information about this program can be found at their website ([www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org)). Please contact Pastor Deb or Don Conner if you are interested in participating. You are cared about and you are loved. We would like to help you through this difficult time.

## **ATTENTION LADIES!**

*Lady's Day*

We only have two tickets left for the SPRING LADIES DAY to be held at America's Keswick on Wednesday, May 9th, 9:00-3:00 p.m.

The speaker for this event is Liz Curtis Higgs, a wonderful author and speaker. They will be serving both breakfast and lunch, a time of worship and two sessions with Liz. This will be a fun day out with the girls as well as a worship-filled time with our amazing God who loves spending time with His girls!

Cost is \$25. Call Deb or Sandy at the Church office for tickets. First come, first served!

---



# THANK YOU!

A great big thank you to those who have taken time to help with the door hanger deliveries and to those of you that have been praying for this endeavor to increase God's kingdom. Also, thanks to those of you that have been using the little business cards that were handed out to invite others into our worship services. I know I have been trying to remember to write a note of invitation on

the back and leave with my tip in restaurants, and someone else, to whom I am grateful, has shared about giving out his after having stepped out and shared about the Lord with people he had met. If you have not used yours yet please consider using in ways mentioned or perhaps place one inside of a book your are passing onto someone or leave on a table in a doctors office with a note on the back of invitation. How about in birthday or other greeting cards with a note saying "I love you enough to invite you to church" or "I love you so much I want you to know Jesus". I believe in that old saying, "where there's a will there's a way" So if you are willing, then step out and use the cards with some creativity that I know God will provide. If you need more cards they are on the table in the narthex. Lastly, a great big thank you to someone in the church family who has taken it upon herself to send notes to those that used to be a part of our fellowship who no longer come out. She is in the process sending again. Speaking from experience, sometimes just a note of caring is all that it may take.

Just FYI: We still have two more door hanger deliveries to do; the next one being in time for National Day of Prayer Service, which is the first Thursday in May. Already we are having difficulties finding free time on the calendar so once again, we will be relying on those of you willing to help out when you have some free time.

In the meantime, please continue to pray for all that we are doing to try and bring others to the Lord.

Jesus tells us, "I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:2 I read once that this means a prepared place for prepared people. Let us all make it our personal mission to do something to help others to be prepared by offering opportunities to know Jesus Christ.

---

## **April 2018 Sermon Topics**

*Sermons*



- April 1: "The Hope of the Resurrection" (1 Cor. 15:12-26)
- April 8: Pastor Deb Speaking "Live Like You Were Dying"
- April 15: "Because He Lives" (1 Peter 1:3-9)
- April 22: "I Know that My Redeemer Lives (Philippians 3:20-21)
- April 29: "He Lives!" (Revelation 1:4-8)



## Coffee & Conversation

LADIES! You are invited to a new small group meeting at Lynette Huntsinger's home. This will be a time of coffee (or tea!) conversation, and a chance to grow in our friendships with each other and with God. We will be using a book to guide our conversation called "Following God's Guidance." It explores the different ways God communicates with us and how we can learn to recognize His direction.

We will be meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. beginning Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Please join us!



Our church and St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, in Gloucester City are partnering to provide emotional, practical, and spiritual support for single, young pregnant women who find themselves in an unintended pregnancy. This is a 12-week program that teaches about hope and God's love and grace. During the course of this series, we will have a very special "Princess day" and it will conclude with a baby shower to honor young women for choosing life and to help provide for their needs. If you are pregnant or know someone who is pregnant and needs help, please consider calling us! This program begins on Wednesday, April 4 at 6:30 PM. For more information, please contact Pastor Deb or Amelia Stebner.

For more information on Embrace Grace ministries, please visit [www.embracegrace.com](http://www.embracegrace.com). Check out the Embrace Grace commercial here: <http://embracegrace.com/media/media/i-came-here-for-peace/> Testimonial Video: <http://embracegrace.com/media/media/embrace-grace-church-testimonials/>



### Attention Retirees!

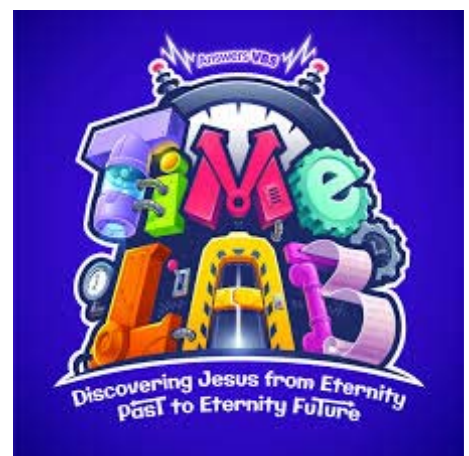
For the month of April only, our monthly luncheon will be held on the second Friday, April 13, at noon.

Hope to see you, and invite a friend!

## SPRING Into Sunday School!

Grow in new  
life together!

Sunday Mornings  
at 9:30 AM. There are  
classes for everyone!



**Mark your calendars!**  
**Vacation Bible  
School  
July 9-13**

**Be on the lookout for  
more information!**

Highland Park Church of God YOUTH

## Look What's Happening in April!



### **EASTER SUNDAY! April 1st NO YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**

Jesus rose from the grave! He conquered sin and death! He paid the price for OUR salvation! He is our LIVING LORD! Worship Him today and **EVERY** day!!

### **April 8th, 3:30-5:00 p.m.: YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**

Youth House! Known by some as the "Jesus House!" Discussion: "Rock On"

### **April 15th, 3:30-5:00 - YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**

At the Youth House! Discussion "I am a Rock"

### **April 21st, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - BOYERTOWN CAMP**

Meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. We will load up and drive to Camp at Cannon Hill in Boyertown, PA. There is a District Work Day there. We will spend a few hours helping out at the camp and then find a park for some hiking. Will plan to be back at church by 5:00 p.m.

### **April 22 - No Youth Fellowship**

### **April 29 - Pastor Deb's Ordination Service & Celebration!**

(More info to come...)



**PLEASE NOTE:** Fundraisers we need to discuss and make plans for

- Clothing Drive taking place now through mid-May.
- Yard Sale: June 9th? (ONLY if there are enough youth to help!!)
- "Drive-In" Movie
- Dessert Auction
- Spaghetti Dinner
- JUNE 3rd - GLOUCESTER CITY DAY!! (Selling pretzels & face-painting)

# April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

## Camp Workday



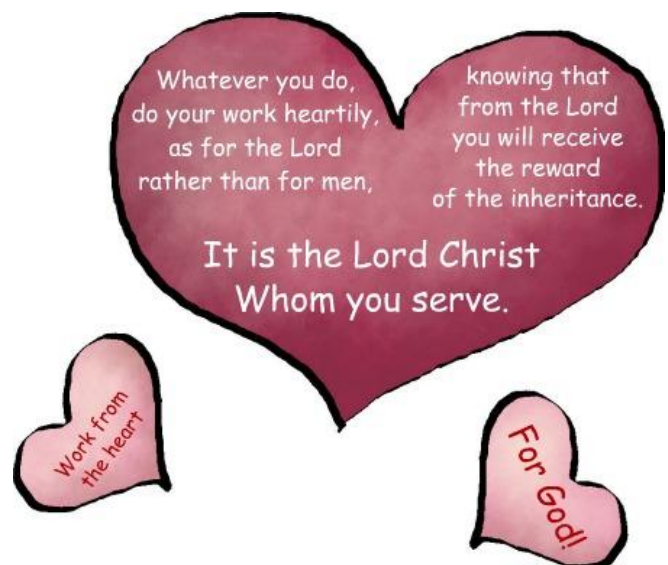
Please join us at the Camp at Cannon Hill for our spring workday. Jobs for everyone. Focus will be on removing the railing next to the dining hall and installing a railing on the back porch of the dining hall. There is also light cleaning, yard work, repairs and painting.

### Schedule

8:30am	Morning prayer/Continental Breakfast
9:00-1:00pm	Work and fellowship
1:00pm	Lunch

**R.S.V.P to Cindy Kumpel by April 16<sup>th</sup>.  
856-939-4797 or [ckumpel@aol.com](mailto:ckumpel@aol.com)**

**We will continue to work  
after lunch for anyone that  
wishes to stay.**



 \***Needed**\* 

**Please join us in collecting usable clothing items to be donated to those in need.**

**Our church uses the money raised to help other charities, so it is a win/win for everyone!**



**Donations Include:** Wearable clothing, shoes, handbags, belts, scarves, ties, hats, bedding, curtains, tablecloths, towels and stuffed animals.



Items should be placed neatly on the youth house porch by **May 15<sup>th</sup>** so they can be picked up on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Call ahead to make sure it is unlocked, 856-456-3364.



A & E Clothing Corp. will sort and ship items to the Marian Center Charity with shelters throughout New Jersey and will then send items overseas. A donation is made to our church just for collecting!

Thank you for your donations!

**Items must be placed in closed trash bags.**



**Items due May 15<sup>th</sup>!**



**Proceeds to help our youth go to IYC!**



# April/May Missions

April 3<sup>rd</sup>: Making Sandwiches for S.H.A.N

April 20<sup>th</sup>: Seeds of Hope Auction

April 21<sup>st</sup>: Workday, Camp at Cannon Hill

May 1<sup>st</sup>: Making Sandwiches for S.H.A.N

May 12<sup>th</sup>: Preparing Breakfast RMH

May 16<sup>th</sup>: Clothing Drive Pick Up



**MANY HANDS** MAKE LIGHT WORK

Please keep bringing in TABS for Ronald McDonald House!



**SEEDS OF HOPE MINISTRIES**

# *Live Auction*

**FRIDAY, APRIL 20TH, 2018**

**DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM FOR APPETIZERS, MINGLING AND LIVE MUSIC  
LIVE AUCTION STARTS PROMPTLY AT 7 PM**

**SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH**

**111 W. GREENTREE ROAD, MARLTON, NJ 08053**



**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MINISTRIES OF SEEDS OF HOPE**

**\*NEW\***

**KID-FRIENDLY  
EVENT**

**TRICKY TRAY  
AUCTION**

**NO COST TO  
ATTEND**