

Hixson Presbyterian Church

Ridge Views

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HPC'S 2018 Men's Retreat

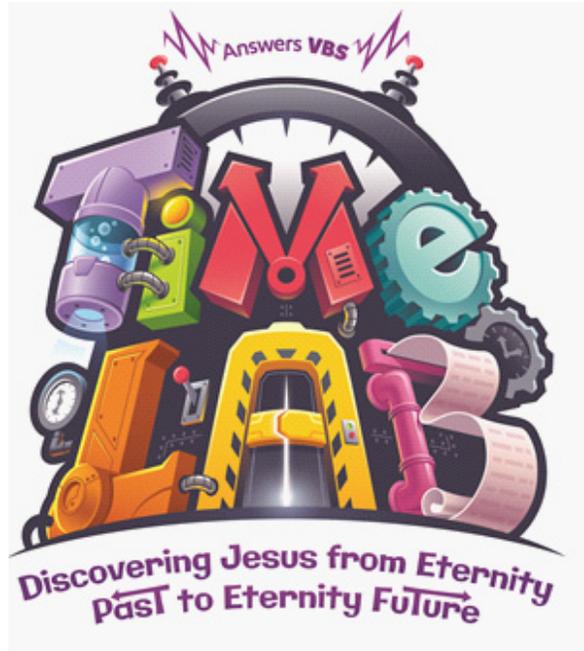


Helping Men Find Balance ***It's About Quality, Not Quantity*** ***Camp Vesper Point March 16th-18th***

Men of HPC please join us for our annual Men's Retreat at Camp Vesper Point. Our guest speaker will be Lea Clower, retired pastor of Rainbow Presbyterian Church in Gadsden, AL. The cost for the weekend is \$100 but there is a \$10 discount if you sign up before February 25th. This price includes 4 meals and 2 nights of lodging. Scholarships are available so please don't let the cost be a hindrance. You may request a scholarship when you sign up. The registration deadline is March 12th. We are looking forward to another great time of getting together as men - worshipping together, playing together and growing together.

We need YOU to make VBS 2018 happen!

Save the Date NOW to be part of the ministry team for VBS 2018, July 23-27th, 9am-12pm each day. There are LOTS of different types of roles to fill, so please do not hesitate to find out how you can help with our church's largest annual outreach to are families!



What have we been doing on Sunday nights in HPC Kids? Well, recently we had a wonderfully warm evening to play outside before our lesson! These kids got their game faces on and had an intense game of Sock Battle! The lesson for the night was how Jesus forgives and restores. Oh how grateful we are for that! Our imperfect selves do not deserve it but He graciously gives! We are continuing to learn about that forgiveness and restoration every Sunday night as we learn about Jesus' last days on Earth and the start of the early church.



Great Opportunity to reach ALL kids, youth, and their families!

Want to know more about how we as a church can reach ALL kids, youth, and their families? HPC will be hosting a special session in March that is focused on reaching and engaging kids and youth, and their families, with special needs. Please join us for a full breakfast and special needs training with Ashley Belknap, Director of MNA's special needs ministry, Engaging Disability with the Gospel. We are joining up with many area PCA churches for this event and have had a great response so far! Ashley will lead us in a leadership-specific training regarding serving our church's special needs families. She will guide us with ideas on how to reach the kids and youth whom we know learn differently, but also give us tools for those whom we just aren't sure what drives them and how to reach them. This session is designed for those who volunteer or work with children and youth in our church, however anyone is welcome to attend. If you simply have a passion for reaching families with special needs, consider joining us! Please RSVP to let me know you will be attending this optional, free session. I really hope to see a lot of you there as we continue this path to serve families better.

WHAT: Special needs focused training

DATE: Saturday, March 24th

TIME: Full breakfast served at 8:30, session starts at 9 and will end no later than noon

Building friendships

Despite some snow days and illness, the children at Little Seekers spent time together this month reconnecting with friends after the break. Much of what we do here at Day School is guide children in how to interact with each other in a positive way. Time is balanced between structured activities like circle time and music and free play both indoors and out. We love seeing the kids build on their relationships with each other and with our teachers.



Share the Love through Little Seekers!



February is a great time to seek our ways to share the love of Christ! Is the Lord leading you to share your love with little ones? We have great volunteer group and we have a great time each week building relationships with children in this wonderful outreach ministry. Ever wondered how many kids in our Day school are not from HPC? Believe it or not 75% of kids enrolled are not from HPC families. What a great outreach opportunity! Their hearts and minds are being shaped by the word of God with our ABC Jesus Loves Me Curriculum and through weekly chapel. Join us and be a part of that!

Tracking the Trailmen of Trail Life TN-1967



Good muddy spelunking fun January 20th as 19 trailmen and 13 adults spent the night at Cumberland Caverns. It was the Woodlands first overnight adventure. All the boys participated in a guided cave tour. Some opted for the Wild Cave Tour burrowing through very tight, muddy places and none of them lost their shoes in Bubblegum Alley!

Our next Hit the Trail Event is the Huntsville Space Center on February 10th.

Next troop meetings are February 6th, 13th, and 20th at the church from 6-7:30 pm. Walk Worthy!



Uberfreezin' 9

This past MLK weekend, many of our youth enjoyed retreating to Winterplace and Glades Springs Resort in West Virginia for our ninth Uberfreezin' Ski and Snowboard Retreat. We had a great group of 24 students and 8 leaders, and together we enjoyed one of the best Uberfreezins yet!

One of the primary purposes of Uberfreezin' is spiritual development. Each retreat we pick a different theme and focus on that theme as part of our teaching, worship and small group times. This year we looked at God's sovereignty. We talked about how God's Sovereignty is a major theme throughout Scripture, and how it gives believers a firm foundation on which to stand. Then we looked at Jonah and saw two typical negative reactions to God's Sovereignty: we either run away or resist. Finally, we looked at Jesus in John 13, who rested perfectly in his Father's sovereign will, and served others out of love. Students were then

given time to process these ideas in small groups with the goal of applying the ideas to their lives.

Another primary purpose of Uberfreezin' is fellowship. These retreats have great potential for creating unity in a youth group, and Uberfreezin' 9 did not disappoint in that area. Our students bonded together in fellowship as well as I have ever seen. I was particularly impressed by the way every student was included in the group. I never needed to ask a student to intentionally befriend other students because that was happening organically.

Finally, there's the skiing. We were blessed with very cold weather (temperatures in the 20's and teens, and even into single digits at night) and it even snowed all day Saturday! Though it was a bit icy at times, we had plenty of snow to enjoy on the slopes. Many of our students were able to progress in their ski and snowboard abilities, which always makes for a great time.

I'd like to say a big thank you to Ben & Cecilia Jones, Keith & Holly McAfee, John & LaDasha Shelhamer and Bo Wheeler for leading this trip! You guys were amazing leaders and the students really enjoyed being around you for the weekend. And thanks to our great group of youth who helped make this Uberfreezin' one of the best yet!

Important Youth Ministry Dates

- Men's Retreat (for High School Guys only): March 16th - 18th
- Parents' Night Out: Friday, April 20th
- High School Jamaica Mission Trip: June 16th - 23rd
- Middle School Auburn Mission Trip: July 16th - 20th
- TBD:
 - Backpacking Trip
 - Service Day
 - Communicants' Class begins

Primetimer's News

Tuesday, February 13th, the Primetimers are meeting at Olive Garden Restaurant on highway 153 in Hixson. (We had talked at our January meeting as to whether to go to O'Charley's or Olive Garden. I called both and O'Charley's is already booked so I guess Olive Garden is our choice.) We have always enjoyed it there and had good service. We, of course, can order from the menu so you can get whatever you want.

Come even if you don't know when your get a call from your caller.

Look forward to you being with us for good food and fellowship on Tuesday, February 13th at 11:30am at Olive Garden.

Thank You!

Thank you very much to my wonderful church family for the many ways you expressed your love and encouragement to me during the long illness of my husband. Thank you for the prayers, the lovely cards, the phone calls, and the beautiful flowers.

I love you all!

Sue Thompson

Upcoming Events!

- Feb 10 Men's Breakfast
8:30am
- Feb 17 Ladies Tea and
Fellowship, 11:00am
- Feb 18 Congregational
Meeting
- Feb 21 Women's Bible Study
10:00-11:30am
- Feb 24 Progressive Dinner,
5:30pm

Birthdays

February Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 - Debra Franks & Eunice Vechinski | 18 - Madison Rogers |
| 2 - Calum Williams | 19 - Andrew Card & Opal Wheeler |
| 3 - Greg Evans & Cassie Partain | 20 - Paul Weese |
| 4 - Doug Evans, <i>Emma Stoddard</i> & Trinity Huff | 21 - Janet Halabrin |
| 5 - Sarah Grace Bennett & Donna Dowlen | 22 - Ron Gregory & Jan Purdy |
| 6 - Margaret Martin | 25 - Adam Ryder & Sandy Scott |
| 7 - Mike Fugate | 26 - Eden Furr & Kathy Napier |
| 9 - Robbie Evans, Andrew Johnson, Cooper Williams & Shelby Williams | 27 - Scott Bennett |
| 10 - Nancy Monroe | 28 - Alee Pope |
| 11 - Sandra McKinney & Gabe Sigette | |
| 14 - Tim Payne & Regenia Pratt | |
| 16 - Darren Shafer | |

**Those in Italics are our missionaries.*

Anniversaries

February Anniversaries

- 21 - David & Sheleena Ryder