

Prayer Guide

CHURCH FAMILY HEALTH NEEDS: Pray for Randy and Connie as they face uncertainty with their job situations. Pray for Bonnie Jamrozy, who was recently hospitalized because of a blood infection. Pray for Dorothy Lubbers, who was hospitalized recently due to heart attack.

MISSIONARIES: This month pray for the Bellas in Hungary.

FAMILY OF THE WEEK: Each week we'll pray for a different family in our church. This week pray for the Barb Beutler.

HILLSIDE HAPPENINGS: Pray that the church would continue to stay unified under Christ. Pray for our online service, and for the people joining us there. Pray that God would use us to bring His Kingdom here. Pray for the foster closet, as they are helping a new foster closet as they are currently in need of more volunteers.

CURRENT HAPPENINGS: Pray for the current health pandemic in our world and in our country. Pray for medical staff and for our leaders as they navigate how to best help. Pray for our teachers and school administrators. Pray for the unrest and divisions in our country. Pray for our leaders, current and future.

Numbers

Attendance for 11/29/20 Service

In-person: 35

Online Views (through 12/2): 31

Giving

Online (11/23-11/29): \$295 for general fund

In-Person on 11/29: \$322 for general

Total general needed weekly to meet budget: \$1,575

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Find us on Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram:
@HillsideMissionaryChurch

hmcworship.com

ESTHER

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS



Welcome to

Hillside

MISSIONARY CHURCH

Welcome!

December 6th, 2020

Whether you're a guest or a long-time attendee we're glad you're here with us. We're a friendly and caring group of Christians who are here to help people be CONNECTED with Jesus, CHANGED by Jesus, and COMMITTED to the mission of Jesus.

GUESTS: Thanks for joining us today! We truly believe that you're not here by accident and that God has some amazing plans for your life. If you'd like some information about who we are and how to get plugged in here at Hillside, please fill out the "I'm New" page on our website, hmcworship.com/im-new/

SERMON SERIES: Our sermon series is going through the book of Esther and is entitled, *"For Such a Time as This."* This Sunday's message is from chapter 8 and answers the question, *"What do I do when I can't help but ask, 'why?'"*

CONNECT: We'd love for you to connect with us online! Find an online version of every week's service on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and on our website, hmcworship.com. In addition to that, we encourage you to continue to reach out to your church family through letters, texts, phone calls, and on social media.

COVID-19 CHANGES: Thank you for wearing your mask when not seated 6+ feet away from those outside of your household. Please remember, no offering plates will be passed; instead, we ask you to give online or via the giving box near the entrance. Tables are set up in the back row for families with young children. We also kindly ask you to use the restroom before you come to ensure that our restrooms are as clean as possible for those who need to use them.

Announcements

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: We strive to be as transparent as possible about how the church operates and handles money. To help accomplish this we encourage everyone to attend a short meeting following the service next Sunday, Dec. 13th. Paper copies of the handout for the meeting are available at the info table located near the entrance of the gym. Otherwise, if you are on the church's email list, one has already been emailed to you in the weekly email leading up to today's service. We encourage everyone to look over the handout before attending the meeting.

SMALL GROUP: If you're looking to go deeper with what Pastor Josh preaches on Sunday mornings or just looking for some extra fellowship time with your church family, then please consider joining a small group! Please contact Pastor Josh.

Opportunities to Help

FOSTER CLOSET: Our foster closet helps foster children and families to get the clothing and things that they need. They are in need of people to help them sort through donations on a regular basis. If you would like to get involved or would like more information please contact April Rollf.

KID'S MINISTRY: We've started a kids' church program for during the sermon part of our service. If you'd like to volunteer once a month, just during the sermon portion of the service, we'd love your help! No outside prep is required. Please contact Pastor Josh.

TECHNOLOGY: Do you love technology? Do you have a working finger? We're looking for someone to help us out with putting together and running the worship lyrics on Sunday morning. Please contact Pastor Josh.

ESTHER

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

12/6/20 - Week 8 – Esther 8-10

When You Ask God, “Why?”

In this passage of God’s Word we see the conclusion to the story of Esther. As momentous as this conclusion is, it’s difficult not to ask the question of, *“why did all of this have to happen in the first place?”* By taking a look at the end of this story, we can learn what we should do when we ask that very question to God about our own lives.

When you ask God, *“why?”* remember:

1. God is working all things out for our _____

Esth. 8:1-2, Rom. 8:28

2. Faith has a particular opportunity to grow through _____ times

Esth. 8:15-17, James 1:2

3. God cares enough about us to point us towards _____

John 6:44, 2 Pet. 3:9

Reflection Questions

1. After taking a look at the end of the book of Esther, what stands out to you the most? If you’re familiar with the story, did you notice anything that you haven’t noticed before? What stood out to you the most throughout our series through this book? What is one thing you will never forget about the book of Esther because of this series?
2. Many people’s faith grew because of what happened in the book of Esther. This is especially evident in Esther 8:15-17. Has your faith ever grown because of difficult circumstances that were happening in your life?
3. God had to arrange a lot to happen throughout the story of Esther in order for the story to end as it did. Have you ever stopped to think about how God has arranged for the circumstances in your life to point you towards Him? List out all of the details that God had to arrange in order for Him to point you towards Himself. Spend some time in prayer thanking God for caring enough about you to arrange for those things to happen.
4. Even though God is never directly mentioned in the book of Esther, it is extremely evident that He is working through the book to draw people closer Himself. How is God working in your life right now to draw you closer to Himself? What practical step(s) can you take to faithfully respond to God in this season of your life? Who will keep you accountable to that?