



# Hilton Christian Church



eNews Weekly Reminder— Thursday, February 22, 2024

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757-596-7549

Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 am—12:00 pm / Fri. Closed

## Elders on Call For Thursdays and Fridays

Feb 22-23 Gina Stump  
 Feb 29-Mar 01 Susie Mowry  
 Mar 07-08 Gina Stump  
 Mar 14-15 Hillary Lane-Ramirez  
 Mar 21-22 Ceci Mazaitis  
 Mar 28-29 Sandy Keatley

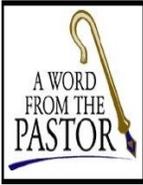
## Zoom Prayer Meetings

February 24, 2024 at 11:00 am

Via Internet: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89413454517?pwd=akR1cjJFeG02bE9YeEUd0UzVWNuUT09>

Via Phone: (301) 715-8592

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,89413454517#,,, \*994674# US  
Meeting ID: 894 1345 4517 Password: 994674



It has been a glorious, exhausting, and absolutely fabulous week since I last sent an update. We hosted the Regional Anti-Racism/ Pro-Reconciliation team training. The training was very good and energy consuming. My friend, Sandhya Jha, led the second day of the retreat. Then she preached on Sunday.

## True Heart Daycare

As I write this, I hear the voices of little ones ringing in the background. We are temporarily housing a daycare, their 30+ children ages 2-3, and the staff. I announced on Sunday that we had made arrangements for them to be here after a car smashed into their building on Ash Wednesday. God was obviously in the middle of this as we were able to clear space, get government sign-offs where needed, get the space cleared, cleaned and ready to start on Tuesday. This is nothing short of miraculous. Welcome to Andrea Porter, her staff and all the little ones. May we be blessings to one another.



## Sunday Worship

We had a joint worship with Cathedral Word Ministry. The service not only included components of both worship services but it also included a blessing for Michael Burnett as he begins his sabbatical ministry at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Peninsula.



There were a number of people from the ARPR training who stayed over to attend worship with us. I invited all of the ordained clergy to participate in the blessing. There were 9 who did so. Bishop William Blackwell Sr. offered the words of blessing.

It was a joyous day and the 3 presiding clergy had a spirit-filled and joyful day.



Pastor Natalie, Christine Lane-Ramirez, Andreana Blackwell, Hillary Lane-Ramirez, Elder Katrina Wiggins.

Thank you to all who provided soup and other food for our Sunday Dinner and for the Meet and Greet on Saturday. Thank you for all who helped with set up and clean up. Thank you Jean! Thank you to all who contributed to our offering. Most of all, thank you to all of you who poured out your love to make all of our guests and our partner church feel welcome and loved. Cheryl Nicholas has posted more photos from Sunday on her Facebook page.

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Cont'd from front page:

**Devotional Booklet:**

The devotional booklets have all been picked up. If you didn't get one and would like one, let me know and I will print one for you. If you would like it as a Word document by email, let me know, [hiltonccpastor@gmail.com](mailto:hiltonccpastor@gmail.com) If you need a hard copy mailed, contact the church office.

**A Devotional Practice**

As a child, we used to make a daily offering during Lent. We used folders like the one pictured below. If you would like a folder to make a daily offering, they are available in the narthex or contact the office to get on mailed. The offering totals \$9.50 through Maundy Thursday. Offerings will go to the garden fund.

The Regional Assembly is coming to University of Lynchburg on June 1. The regional moderator, Janice Austin, invited Hilton Christian and Cathedral Word to make a joint display at the assembly. Also, at that assembly, we will see the new regional commercial for ARPR that was filmed at the training.

The Assembly is a one day event and I would like to see HCC and CWM make a carpool caravan to Lynchburg so that we are well represented there. Please, plan to attend! Information is on the regions website.

This Sunday we begin our Lenten journey in earnest. I pray that everyone who worked so hard last week to make all the good things happen will get some rest this week.

With love and gratitude.

*Have a glorious weekend  
Pastor Natalie*

*WE Agree*

**Love God Family Country and Music**

**A multi-cultural international night of music**  
February 26th 7pm  
221 34th St, Newport News, VA 23607

**JR**  
JONAH'S RUN

**SPECIAL OFFERING**

**GIFTS TO LIVE ON**  
**Girls' Education in Afghanistan**

Disciples have always been clear: When needs arise, we need to respond ... we need to be moved; we need to be generous; we need to be faithful; we need to be transformed.

We need to take on the role of the generous widow.

*"... all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."*  
- Luke 21:1-4 NRSVue

Jesus sees the widow and her gift, and rejoices in her generosity. Others were giving from what they could spare - but this woman, Jesus said, was giving everything she had to live on. Such generosity upends expectation.

When we give, we know that our gifts are not the only ones that matter - the true gift of compassion and connection lies in the resilience of the communities we serve. **GIFTS TO LIVE ON** live in the dreams of eager and bright girls going to school in Afghanistan.

In the generous widow, we see every Disciple who is part of Week of Compassion, and every person we hope to serve. Her generosity sparks a response in us: we give what we have, what we can offer as our very best, what is uniquely ours to bring. That's what Week of Compassion does - what Disciples do. We bring what we have to live on, which becomes a resource for others to live on - and that mutual giving is how our story lives on, too.



photos: Week of Compassion



**SPECIAL OFFERING 2024**  
**FEBRUARY 18-25**



As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, with a vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.

# HCC's Weekend in Pictures



# Liturgy for Worship February 25, 2024

*What Does Scripture Say About Salvation  
Sermon Series Part 1*

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## Call to Worship

Gina Stump

One: Help us to know your ways, O God. Teach us your paths.

All: **Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.**

One: You are good and upright, O God. You instruct sinners in the way.

All: **All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep your covenant.**

## Congregational Hymn “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

## Pastoral Prayer

## Lord’s Prayer

*Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
Forever and ever. Amen.*

## Special Music

Scripture Romans 3:21-26 and 1 Peter 2:4-8, 21-25

Sermon What Does Scripture Say: Atonement

Gina Stump  
Pastor Natalie

## Congregational Hymn “Tell Me The Stories of Jesus”

## Communion

## Invitation

## Prayer for Bread and Cup

Ceci Mazaitis  
Gina Stump

## Communion Hymn “Let Us Break Bread Together”

## Communion Distributed

## Words of Institution

## Benediction

Ceci Mazaitis  
Pastor Natalie

## Postlude

## Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*If you would like to join Hilton Christian Church, you may speak to the pastor about membership or come forward during the singing of the congregational hymn*

*Hilton Christian Church Services Are Livestreamed*