



# Hilton Christian Church

## Weekly eNews— Thursday, May 26, 2022



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

### Elders on Call For Thursdays and Fridays

May 26-27 Susie Mowry  
June 02-03 Steve Givens  
June 09-10 Cheryl Nicholas

### Zoom Prayer Meeting

Saturday, May 28, 11:00 am  
HCC Zoom Prayer Meetings

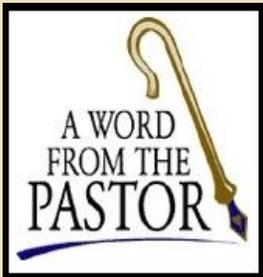
Via Internet: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89413454517?pwd=akR1cjJFeG02bE9YeEiUd0UzVWVuUT09>

Via Phone: (301) 715-8592

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,89413454517#,,,,\*994674# US

Meeting ID: 894 1345 4517 Password: 994674

All articles, photos, event dates etc. for inclusion in the weekly eNews **MUST** be received by the office **no later than 8:00 am each Monday**. Any submissions received after that time will be placed in the following week's eNews. Please Submit photos as a JPEG attachment not a PDF. Call me if you have any questions. Email: [hiltonccoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hiltonccoffice@gmail.com) —Carol



Can you believe we are nearly at the end of another month? It feels like it has been a very “hurry up and wait” kind of month. Having my vacation at the beginning of the month means that I seem to be doing a great deal of catch up with church. I am hoping to schedule and complete a number of home visits in the next couple of weeks.

Please, let me know if you have registered for the regional assembly. It would be good to carpool, if possible.

Remember that June 5 is Pentecost. You are invited to wear flame colors that day: red (also the color representing the Holy Spirit), orange, yellow, and blue.

### **May 30 is Memorial Day.**

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2022 will occur on Monday, May 30.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades.

Looking forward to seeing all of you Sunday.

Blessings, Pastor Natalie

## Donating by Credit Card Via Givelify

If you would like to donate online, following is the information to do so.

- On your mobile phone, download the app Givelify. Open app and search for Hilton Christian Church
- Push **Give** button and follow instructions: Select Fund you wish to donate to or use “Other” to indicate where you wish your donation to go. Note: About 3% of your donation pays for the cost of credit card usage.



The  
**Bulletin Board**  
**What's Happening**

Wishing you a peaceful  
and blessed  
*Memorial Day*

THIS IS HOW WE KNOW WHAT LOVE IS:  
JESUS CHRIST LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR US.  
AND WE OUGHT TO LAY DOWN  
OUR LIVES FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS.  
1 JOHN 3:16

Monday, May 30, 2022  
Church Office Closed

## What is the Origin of Pentecost?

Written by Dr. Ray Pritchard



If you go back and read the Old Testament, you will discover that Pentecost was one of the Jewish feast days. Only they didn't call it Pentecost. That's the Greek name. The Jews called it

the Feast of Harvest or the Feast of Weeks. It is mentioned five places in the first five books — in Exodus 23, Exodus 24, Leviticus 16, Numbers 28, and Deuteronomy 16.

Pentecost was the celebration of the beginning of the early weeks of harvest. In Palestine, there were two harvests each year. The early harvest came during the months of May and June; the final harvest came in the Fall. Pentecost was the celebration of the beginning of the early wheat harvest, which meant that Pentecost always fell sometime during the middle of the month of May or sometimes in early June.

There were several festivals, celebrations, or observances that took place before Pentecost. There was Passover, there was Unleavened Bread, and there was the Feast of Firstfruits. The Feast of Firstfruits was the celebration of the beginning of the barley harvest. Here's the way you figured out the date of Pentecost.

According to the Old Testament, you would go to the day of the celebration of Firstfruits, and beginning with that day, you would count off 50 days. The fiftieth day would be the Day of Pentecost. So Firstfruits is the beginning of the barley harvest and Pentecost the celebration of the beginning of the wheat harvest.

Since it was always 50 days after Firstfruits, and since 50 days equals seven weeks, it always came a "week of weeks" later. Therefore, they either called it the Feast of Harvest or the Feast of Weeks.

## Why Is Pentecost Important to Christianity?

Modern Christians observe Pentecost as a holiday, not to celebrate a wheat harvest, but to remember when the Holy Spirit invaded the Church in Acts 2.

1. **On Pentecost Sunday, the Holy Spirit filled the Church with power and added 3,000 new believers.** The account in Act 2 reports that, after Jesus ascended into heaven, Jesus' followers were gathered together for the Feast of Harvest (aka Pentecost), and the Holy Spirit "filled the whole house where they were sitting" (Acts 2:2). "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them" (Acts 2:4).

This strange occurrence drew a large crowd, and Peter stood up to speak to them about repentance and the gospel of Christ (Acts 2:14). By the end of the day that the Holy Spirit came, the Church grew by 3,000 people (Acts 2:41). This is why Christians still celebrate Pentecost.



I need volunteers after church on this Sunday, May 29th, to help dress the church for the following Sunday's Pentecost service. It should not take long but everyone is welcome to help! Thank you!

—Ceci Mazaitis, Worship Committee Chair



## Prayer Vigil

Prayer vigil for  
God's help, healing,  
and guidance

Sunday 3 PM  
at St. Andrew's

In response to the horrific shootings in Uvalde, TX; Buffalo, NY; Laguna Woods, CA; and so many other places, including daily shootings here in Hampton Roads, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (45 Main Street, Newport News) will be holding a prayer vigil this Sunday afternoon, May 29, at 3 PM. All are welcome.

The Rev. Anne R. Kirchmier  
she/her/hers  
Rector, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church



*Last night before I went to offer the invocation at the city council meeting, I heard news I had hoped to never hear again. Someone entered an elementary school in Uvalde, TX and opened fire. As of Wednesday morning, there were 21 dead, 19 of them children.*

### **Prayer for Uvalde, Texas and for all of us**

Gracious God, in your grace and mercy,

Be comfort for those who are trying to cope with the unimaginable pain of the loss of a child in such a senseless way.

Enfold the community of Uvalde in your loving care; be their hope in the midst of devastation.

Touch the hearts of those who have the power to make changes so that something of good might come of this horror.

Be with those seeking to provide care and service to those who have lost loved ones, especially the children who attend Robb Elementary.

Be the peace and strength for those caring for the wounded children and adults so that they may be fully present for those in need.

For all the people of Uvalde, the state of Texas and the people around the country and world, comfort us and give us courage to work to make needed changes and give us wisdom to know what those changes need to be.

In the midst of our grief, we seek justice; help us to act in keeping with the desire of our hearts.

Amen.

It has been pointed out that prayers are useless or even hypocritical if we are not willing to act to see change. I suggest that there are things that we can do:

- Give blood for those who need it in Uvalde and around the world
- Contact your senator and representative and ask that they put aside partisan differences to work toward solutions to keep this from happening again.
- Join with your neighbors in prayer vigils (See page 2) or other actions in support of the Uvalde, Buffalo, Laguna Woods, and all the other communities who have suffered loss due to gun violence.
- Support the work of local organizations, like Pastoring the City, who are attempting to address gun violence locally.
- Continue to pray knowing that sincere prayer will require action.

O God, hear our prayers and accept our offer of ourselves as we seek comfort and change. Amen.

—Pastor Natalie

## Liturgy for Worship



May 29, 2022

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### Invocation & Call to Worship

Susie Mowry

ONE: Clouds and thick darkness sometimes veil the presence of God from us.

**ALL: But we know righteousness and justice to be the foundations of God's throne.**

ONE: God loves us.

**ALL: God watches over us as we keep faith when it would be easier not to..**

ONE: Rejoice in God!

**ALL: Give thanks to God's holy name!**

### Congregational Hymn "His Eye Is on the Sparrow"

### 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.*

### Hymn

Scripture: Acts 16:16-34

Sermon Invisible, But Faithful

Choir  
Susie Mowry  
Pastor Natalie

### Communion

### Communion Hymn "One Bread, One Body"

### Meditation

### Prayer for Bread and Cup

Susie Mowry

### Communion Distributed

### Words of Institution

### Benediction

Chancel Choir

*Hilton Christian Church Services Are Livestreamed*