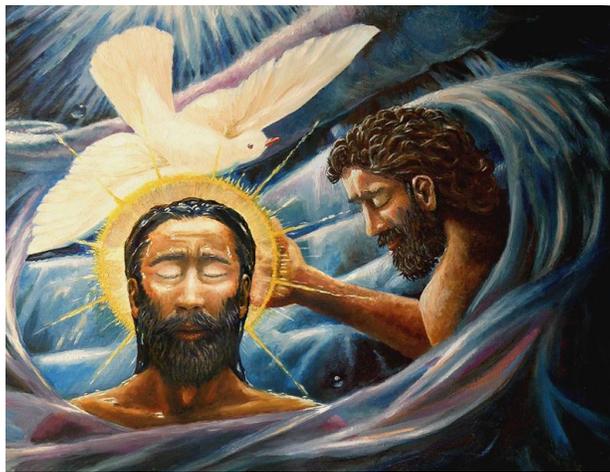




Indian Hill Church

EPISCOPAL † PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday Worship and Announcements



Join us for worship today!

Oh God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your son. Look now with compassion on the entire human family; and particularly this part of the family, in the United States, and those in our nation's capital; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

– For the Human Family, Book of Common Prayer, p. 815

Art: Zelenka, Dave. Baptism of Christ, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

[Click here to view the worship service.](#)

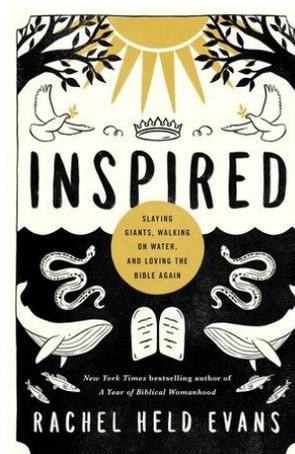
Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 31 at 10:30 AM
Via Zoom

Please save the date for our annual congregational meeting. We will send out a zoom link the week before the meeting.



Three Week Zoom Book Study with The Rev. Meredith Day Hearn
Inspired: A Skeptic's Guide to Reading the Bible
Thursday, February 4th, 11th, and 18th
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Why don't modern day Christians follow all of Paul's advice in the New Testament? Why would God tell Abraham to kill his own son? Did Moses actually defy the laws of physics in the parting of the Red Sea? As author Rachel Held Evans writes, "If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, then what is it?" If you've ever found yourself grappling with what exactly makes the Bible "inspired," then this class might be for you. Through the lens of Evans' book, this three-week course will discuss how to read the Bible in a new way: focusing on story, soliloquy, poetry, and drama and embracing the mystery of this fascinating yet confounding book.



Please email The Rev. Meredith Day Hearn to sign up (mhearn@indianhillchurch.org).
Please purchase the book *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans.

[Amazon Book Link](#)

Please read the Introduction through page 57 prior to our first meeting on February 4th.

O Lord, as the events of the world cause my strength to waiver, remind me that you are my strength

Dear God as we celebrate this Epiphany week, when Christ was made manifest as your gift to all the world, we pray for clear and obvious signs of your presence among us today.



O Lord, as the events of the world cause my strength to waiver, remind me that you are my strength.
O Lord as the daily worries of life raise my anxieties, remind me that in you I find my peace.
O Lord when voices try to convince me otherwise, may you remind me that I am your child, fearfully and wonderfully made.

Gracious God bring clarity and light to me on this day. Remind me that in you I may seek refuge. Remind me that your steadfast presence means that I have all that I need. Remind me again that I am yours! Amen

by Jerrod Lowry, general presbyter and stated clerk of Presbytery of Coastal Carolina, 1/8/21

Our Daily Bread Collection Tuesday and Wednesday

Indian Hill Church is delivering 400 sandwiches to Our Daily Bread on Wednesday, January 13. You can sign up to help with sign up genius or you can just drop off food.

[Sign Up Genius Link](#)

You can help by making peanut butter and jelly or meat (turkey or bologna) sandwiches. We also need fresh fruit (bananas and oranges) and individually packaged desserts (homemade or store bought).

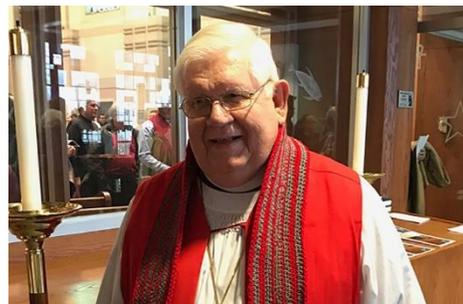
Deliver sandwiches, fruit and desserts to Indian Hill Church front porch. Please deliver on Tuesday, January 12 between 7:30 AM - 2:00 PM or Wednesday, January 13 between 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM.

"In His name, lending a helping hand to others."



A Word to the Diocese: Putting action to prayer January 7, 2021 Bishop Price

The recent attack on our nation's capitol has shaken us all. Regardless of our politics, the scenes of violence and assault are deeply disturbing. In a democracy, the right of people to protest decisions they do not agree with is important. What we saw this past week in Washington was not a peaceful protest, but a violent act of lawlessness. There are many things that led up to that event, but the end result was the endangering of our duly elected officials and their staffs as they went about their constitutional business of certifying the election of our next President. It resulted in needless destruction of property, physical injury and even death of people caught up in the melee. The message of protest got lost in the violence that ensued.



Combine this with all too-frequent instances of racial injustice (also often leading to death) that are sweeping our country and the tension and fear brought on by the pandemic of COVID-19, and humanity is being put to a test unlike we have known in our lifetime.

People of faith are being asked to pray for our nation, our leaders and for those directly affected by these events. This is good. I believe in prayer and encourage it. However, I also believe that prayer is not complete unless it is coupled with action. Prayer is always meant to be God-centered. When God is at the center of our life, self cannot dominate. On the other hand, when self is at the center, God is squeezed out.

I believe that is what happened in Washington. As human beings and citizens in a free democracy, we often have opinions and beliefs that are in opposition. Debate over those opinions is healthy. Our Congress was about to embark on just that kind of debate when it was attacked. When debate devolves into a demand that my way is the only way and we discount not only the other's beliefs, but that individual as a person, then self-centeredness replaces God-centeredness and prayer becomes hollow.

Sadly, all too often when asked to pray, we allow the recitation of the prayers to be the end. But remember, I said prayer without action is incomplete. As we all pray this Sunday and in the days to come, may we resolve to make sure our life is a living testimony to those prayers. Instead of only listening to those who agree with us and discounting those who do not, let's make a point of trying to see and understand both sides of an issue. We then can debate the merits of that issue, and not turn our differences of opinion into personal attacks. Let us not only pray for racial justice, but when we witness instances of injustice, speak up and offer support to those who have been victimized. And concerning the virus, let us listen to our medical experts and even if we might not fully understand or believe in mask-wearing and vaccination, not make that a political matter but participate for the greater good of all the community so that we may eradicate this attack on us all.

When I was younger, at church camp we all made bracelets that said "What would God have us to do?" I no longer wear that bracelet, but its message is so emblazoned in my heart that I hear it in everything I do.

And so, my sisters and brothers, pray with me this Sunday the following prayers. But then ask God to show you what you may do to give action to the praying. May God bless you in the doing to God's work.

Following the example of our Presiding Bishop, I ask that all of our congregations have special prayers this Sunday for peace in our nation. Drawing from our book of Common Prayer, these are the prayers Presiding Bishop Curry recommends:

- Morning Prayer II, Book of Common Prayer, p. 98
- For Peace, Book of Common Prayer, p. 815
- For the Human Family, Book of Common Prayer, p. 815

On this day and at this moment, we pray for our nation. We ask God to heal us, to show us the way to healing, to show us the way to be one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. For ever and ever. Amen.

(The Rt. Rev.) Kenneth L. Price, Jr.
Bishop in the Diocese of Southern Ohio

Updated Worship Guidelines

The Vestry Session of the Indian Hill Church has updated our worship and building use guidelines. Should Hamilton County be designated as having a **red or purple alert level, there will be no indoor worship service that week or the following week.**



We will not have indoor worship on Sunday, January 10 or Sunday, January 17 as Hamilton County was red on Thursday, January 7.

We will continue to offer a pre-recorded service that will be released on **Saturday evening at 5:00 PM** every week regardless of our ability to meet in person for worship on Sunday mornings.

Power Pack Collection

Indian Hill Church has collected **1,700** Power Packs since May! Thank you for your generosity!

If you would like to help with Power Packs, here is more information:

What makes a good power pack?

1. Look for a **meal** for each bag (microwave mac and cheese, microwave ravioli, soups with pull tab, canned chicken/tuna lunch kits, Hormel shelf stable meals).
2. Add other items such as individual cereals, applesauce, fruit cups, shelf-stable puddings, oatmeal, peanut butter crackers, JIF peanut butter to go cups, raisins, chips, juice box, granola bar, pretzels, microwave popcorn, cheese crackers).
3. Seal items in a gallon Ziploc bag.
4. It is great when the bag is full of items.
5. Feel free to add an encouraging note to the child receiving the Power Pack.



Power Packs can be dropped off Monday - Thursday between 7:30 AM - 2:00 PM on the Indian Hill Church front porch.

New Year -- New Opportunities to Serve IHC!

In the New Year, you might consider the many opportunities Indian Hill Church offers to spread God's generosity in our community. One opportunity is the **Church and Community Committee**. Over the past year, the Committee has investigated and funded numerous outreach projects. These include projects to help feed and house low-income and homeless people. The need for private funding of community outreach projects is always great, but it has been especially so in this year of the COVID-19 pandemic.



There are two funds we work with. One is our General Fund allocated by the Vestry-Session each year. These funds underwrite our "Hands On" projects that included, over the last ten months, grants to the following organizations:

Inter Parish Ministry (IPM) for the distribution of food, clothing, school supplies and Christmas gifts to needy individuals and families in Clermont and eastern Hamilton counties;

Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) to provide temporary housing for homeless individuals and families and assistance in finding permanent housing; and

Transforming Jail Ministries to support jail ministries at the Hamilton County jail facilities.

Two additional, and still ongoing, "Hands On" projects involve the preparation of over 8,000 sandwiches for Our Daily Bread to distribute to food-deprived Cincinnati residents, particularly residents of the inner-city, and the preparation of about 1,500 Power Pack meals for distribution by IPM. Our church, by the way, was one of IPM's founding congregations over fifty years ago.

The other source of funds is the Luther Tucker Church and Community Outreach Fund. The late Reverend Tucker created this endowment in 1979 to fund innovative projects not funded by the regular operating budget of the church. To date, we have made Luther Tucker grants to these organizations:

Matthew 25 Ministries for COVID-19 relief efforts.

Maslow's Army for temporary housing for homeless individuals and families.

La Soupe for its Community Kitchens Program for free meals and food distribution.

Heartfelt Tidbits to provide rent assistance and educational supplies for online learning to immigrant families.

If you would like to participate in the outreach efforts of the Indian Hill Church in the wider Cincinnati community, please give our Chair, Holly Dewees, a call at 513-324-1846. We would welcome your participation!

CONNECT WITH US!



www.indianhillchurch.org