



# HILLTOP NEWS

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## Thanksgiving Thoughts

I love this time of year!! The days begin to become more crisp and the hint of the fast approaching holiday season is in the air. This time of year also helps to remind me of all that I am thankful for. It is our prayer at Hilltop that you and your family take time this season to reflect on all that God has provided. "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever." Psalm 136:1

## November Themes

The themes for the 2's are Thanksgiving and Sharing. Their Bible verse is Psalm 136:1 "Give thanks to the Lord."

The themes for the 3's are Thanksgiving and Sharing. They will be working on sharing with others, understanding thankfulness, scissor skills, and showing an interest in books and stories. Their Bible verse is Psalm 136:1, "Oh, give thanks to the Lord for He is good."

The themes for the 4's are Thanksgiving; Native Americans and Pilgrims; and Sharing. They will be working on caring for one's own needs and belongings, participating willingly in group activities, shapes, and recalling a story. Their Bible verse is, "Oh, give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His love endures forever." Psalm 136:1

The 5-year-old theme is Mmmm, Good Nutrition. They will be working on the food pyramid and making healthy choices, matching number sets 1-10, Letters G-M, and the character trait for the month is Kindness. Their Bible verse is, "The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Galatians 5:22.

## Thanksgiving Celebrations

The 2's & 3's will be having a Thanksgiving Party in their individual rooms on Tuesday & Wednesday, November 21st & 22nd.

The 4's and 5's will have a Thanksgiving Feast on Wednesday, November 22nd. The feast will begin at 11:00 a.m. in Rooms 401-404 here at the church. The children will eat together (the food is only for our Hilltop students, not families) for the feast. Then each class will sing a song for the rest of the classes. If you are able to join us at 11:00 a.m., you are more than welcome to attend. Look for sign-up sheets outside your child's class for ways you can help with this day.

**Please Note That There Will Be NO SCHOOL ON NOVEMBER 23rd, 24th, & 27th Due To The Thanksgiving Holiday. The Nursery School Office Will Also Be Closed On These Days. School Will Resume As Usual On Tuesday, November 28th.**



## Teachers in the Spotlight

This month, I'd like to introduce you to some special ladies on our staff... "Miss" Amanda Spidell and "Miss" Amy Bomgardner. Amanda and Amy teach a 3-year-old class together in Room 105.

This is Amanda's first year with us at Hilltop although her family has been with us several years now. As often happens, Amanda first experienced Hilltop as a parent. Amanda and her husband, Don, have two children. Maddie, is in 3rd grade, and Andrew, who is in our 4's program at Hilltop. Amanda and her family attend Hershey Free where she is involved in the Nursery Ministry.

When Amanda is not at Hilltop, you can usually find her spending time with her family. In her free time, she loves to run, sew, and drink coffee—but not at the same time!

This is Amy's fourth year with us. Amy also first came to us as a mom. Amy and her husband, Jay, have two children, both of which are Hilltop alumni. Megan is in 5th grade and Owen is in 3rd grade at Conewago Elementary School. Amy and her family attend Conewago COB.

When Amy is not at Hilltop, she enjoys working outside, whether it be on their family's farms or in their garden. In her free time, Amy loves to read and spend time with her family in the mountains.

Hilltop is blessed to have these two wonderful ladies with us! Their enthusiasm is contagious. They spread great joy to those around them. We are thankful to have both of them with us helping us to plant eternal seeds. What a gift they are to Hilltop!



## Family Fun Event

Mark your calendars now for a special night of fun. On Friday, November 17th, Hilltop and the Hershey Free Church will be hosting a Family Fun Event. The event will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium here at the church. We will be showing "A Charlie Brown Christmas."

The admission for the evening for your family is a filled shoebox. Only one shoebox per family is requested, but feel free to fill more if you'd like! Information about Operation Christmas Child and the shoeboxes was sent home in a letter in October. If you need more information, or a shoebox flyer, just stop by the Hilltop office. We'd be glad to help you.

Snacks will be served at the Family Fun Event. We encourage you to invite your friends, neighbors, and other family members to join us. The more shoeboxes collected -- the better!!!

If you are not able to join us on the 17th, but you'd still like to donate a shoebox, feel free to bring your shoebox to school the week of November 13th through the 17th. No shoeboxes will be able to be accepted after the 17th.

Thank you!



## Christmas Programs

Make sure you mark your calendars now....Our Christmas Programs will be here before you know it!

Our Tuesday 2's and 3's will be performing on Tuesday, December 19th at 10:00 a.m.

Our Wednesday 2's, 4's, and 5's will be performing on Wednesday, December 20th at 10:00 a.m.

You will bring your child to school between 9:15 and 9:30, then the performance will take place in the church's sanctuary. After the performance is over, we will escort the children back to their class (except the 2's) and they will be dismissed as they are every school day. We then invite your family to join us for a cookie and punch reception in the Core Café.

More information will be sent home closer to this event.

## Thank You!!!

Thank you to all of you who in some way supported the nursery school KidStuff Book fundraiser. Some of you bought a book for yourself, and some of you sold books to friends and family. Because of your wonderful support, we raised over \$1,000! This money goes toward our scholarship program and into our equipment fund to purchase extras for the nursery school.

We will, once again, be offering our **Christmas Shop on December 5th and 6th**. At Hilltop's Christmas Shop the children may purchase Christmas gift items for family and friends. Parent helpers will be needed for this fundraiser. Sign up sheets will be posted in the hallway for parent volunteers soon. ***If you have anything you would like to donate, feel free to drop it off in the nursery school office. In addition, we are in need of BROWN GROCERY BAGS!!!*** If you have some that you would be willing to give us, please drop them off in the office. More information about the Christmas Shop will be sent home later.

## Christmas Eve Services

We would love to invite you and your entire family to visit the Hershey Free Church for its Christmas Eve services. Hershey Free will offer several services. The first is on Saturday, December 23rd at 7:00 p.m. Food trucks will be on hand at this service so you can have dinner together beforehand. The others will be offered on December 24th at 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. Hershey Free is also offering a new service this year on December 24th at 11:00 p.m.

The 7:00 p.m. service on the 23rd is going to be specifically geared towards families with children. There will be music from the church's preschool choir, as well as the Christmas Choir-the elementary choir. Children will be reading Scripture, and a story about the nativity will be shared.

The other services will be identical. You can expect to hear congregational carol singing, as well as a short Christmas message.

If you have any questions about these services, or questions about the Hershey Free Church in general, please stop by the office and speak with Miss Becky.

## Giant A+ School Rewards

Thank you to all of you who have signed up for the Giant A+ School Rewards program. This is such an easy way to support Hilltop. All you have to do is shop at Giant. Visit Giant's website, or stop by the help desk at your local Giant. Hilltop's registration number is 21860.

If you have older children in other schools, you are allowed to choose two schools for this program. Also, you can ask family members, neighbors, church friends, even people you don't know (just kidding) to sign up.

Once you are registered, Hilltop will receive 1% of your grocery bill each time you shop at Giant!!! See me with any questions. We greatly appreciate your support!

## Hilltop Library

Our first month of opening the library went very well. In fact, several hundred items were checked out this month!!! Way to Go!! Keep reading at home!!

Some questions were raised after this first month, so I thought I'd try to answer them. The library is a FREE PROGRAM!!! You do not need to pay/buy anything. Simply stop by Room 203 (upstairs) when the library is open and you can check out the books. If you have books at home that you would like to donate to the library, drop them off in the Hilltop office. In fact, anytime you have any donations, please think of Hilltop. If we can't use them, we have a number of local ministries that we give them to.

Again, the library is open most Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and it is only open at the *beginning* of the assigned school days.

Stop by, get a book, and meet some new Hilltop friends at the same time!!

## Grocery/Gas Gift Cards

This fundraiser continues to be a success for Hilltop. To date, Hilltop has earned over \$200 from the sale of grocery gift cards. Thank you for your continued support of this program.

As a reminder, you can stop in the office anytime to pick-up Giant, Karns, or Redners cards, and then use them as cash at any of the stores. For every gift card purchased, Hilltop receives 5%. Keep in mind, you can also use your credit card to purchase the grocery cards. This is a wonderful way to support Hilltop through your normal everyday grocery and gas shopping.