

Contact Us

- **General Information & Other Ministry Contacts:** info@hilltran.org / (636) 789-2805
- **Senior/Teaching Pastor:** Harold Long / pastor@hilltran.org / (314) 422-2395
- **Student Ministries:** Harold Long / pastor@hilltran.org / (314) 422-2395
- **Children's Ministry Coordinator:** Kristie Monroe / (636) 357-3299 / kristiandawson@yahoo.com.
- **Worship Leader:** Krystal VanHouten / (314) 304-7189 / krstalvh@yahoo.com
- **Congregational Care Team Leader:** Judi Politte-Downs (314) 497-6933 / judipd@ymail.com
- **Liturgist:** Donna Bondurant

Hillsboro UMC

4810 State Road B, Hillsboro, MO 63050

Office hours: Mon, Tues, and Thurs: 9-1:00 PM or by appointment
B: (636) 789-2805 / email: info@hilltran.org

Worship and Preaching Calendar

- December 3, 2023 - Abraham & Sarah - Pam Church
- December 10, 2023 - David & Bathsheba - Pastor Harold
- December 17, 2023 - Elizabeth & Zechariah - Pastor Harold
- Christmas Eve - Children's Christmas Special

HUMC Facebook: @HillsboroUMCMO

TUMC Facebook: @TransformationUMCMO

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/HillTranMinistries>

Download our App: "Our Church" Church.dev (Hill-Tran Ministries)

Website: www.hilltran.org

Questions: ask@hilltran.org

Prayer Request: prayer@hilltran.org

Welcome To Hillsboro UMC December 3, 2023

Our Mission

Our mission is to develop Jesus-centered followers committed to sharing God's love in a Jesus-looking way to help change the world.

Our Vision

Our vision is to create a spiritual community where individuals and families can come as they are, fall in love with Jesus, have a spiritual awakening, and rediscover life.

Our Purpose

"We are People Helping People Experience a Jesus-centered Life"

Welcome Home

Whatever your faith tradition, beliefs, culture, race, past, age, or differing abilities, we hope you find healing and acceptance in our Jesus-centered community. Whatever doubts, questions, or challenges you may have about God and spirituality, we hope you discover the truth about God, have a spiritual awakening, and experience a Jesus-centered life. We are excited you are here and truly wish to connect with you wherever you are in the stream of life.



Order of Praise, Worship, and Teaching

Opening Video: “*Let’s Get Christmas Right*”

Bringing in the Light Song: “*Advent Special*” By Bob Vallely

Welcome and Announcements: Liturgist

***Call to Worship:** Liturgist (**Light the First Advent Candle**)

***Opening Prayer:** Liturgist

***Song:** “*TBD*”

Sharing of Prayers and Joys: Pam Church

***Sharing The Peace:** Pam Church

***Scripture Reading:** - Genesis 15:1-6; 18:9-15; 21:2-17 - Liturgist

Sermon Bumper Video: *Advent Hope*

Message: “*The Promise of God’s Presence*” - Pam Church

Song: “*TBD*”

Offering: Online @ www.hilltran.org/online-giving (Liturgist)

***Sending Forth:** Pam Church

***Closing Song:** “*TBD*”

*** = Please Rise in Posture**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL STUDY, COUPLES OR SMALL GROUPS.

1. This Advent, where do you feel like God is moving too slowly—or not moving at all?
2. What would it look like for you to choose to trust that God’s slowness as not a sign of His absence?
3. List some promises of God. Which of these feel easiest for you to believe? Which of these feel most difficult for you to believe?

Genesis 15:1-6; 18:9-15 (CEB)

God’s covenant with Abram (Genesis 15:1-6)

15 After these events, the LORD’s word came to Abram in a vision, “Don’t be afraid, Abram. I am your protector. Your reward will be very great.”

² But Abram said, “LORD God, what can you possibly give me, since I still have no children? The head of my household is Eliezer, a man from Damascus.”³ He continued, “Since you haven’t given me any children, the head of my household will be my heir.”

⁴ The LORD’s word came immediately to him, “This man will not be your heir. Your heir will definitely be your very own biological child.”⁵ Then he brought Abram outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars if you think you can count them.” He continued, “This is how many children you will have.”⁶ Abram trusted the LORD, and the LORD recognized Abram’s high moral character.

Genesis 18:9-15

9 They said to him, “Where’s your wife Sarah?”

And he said, “Right here in the tent.”

¹⁰ Then one of the men said, “I will definitely return to you about this time next year. Then your wife Sarah will have a son!”

Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him.¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were both very old. Sarah was no longer menstruating.¹² So Sarah laughed to herself, thinking, I’m no longer able to have children and my husband’s old.

¹³ The LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Me give birth? At my age?’¹⁴ Is anything too difficult for the LORD? When I return to you about this time next year, Sarah will have a son.”

¹⁵ Sarah lied and said, “I didn’t laugh,” because she was frightened.

But he said, “No, you laughed.”

Hill-Tran Announcements

- **HUMC & TUMC:** The Hill-Tran Men's group will meet on December 5, 2023, at 6:30 PM at HUMC. The men meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 PM.
- **HUMC & TUMC:** The Hill-Tran Women's Group will meet on December 21, 2023, at 6:00 PM at HUMC.
- **HUMC Leadership Meeting:** Monday, January 11, at 6:30 PM (ZOOM ONLY)
- **TUMC Leadership Meeting:** Sunday, January 14, after service.
- **TUMC Launch Team Meeting:** Monday, December 11, 2023 on ZOOM at 6:30 PM.
- **Joint Service with Potluck afterward:** On December 31, 10:00 AM at HUMC.
- **Christmas Eve Services:**
HUMC: 9:00 AM / **TUMC:** 6:00 PM
- **HUMC:** We need a volunteer to step into the great rotation of leaders for Children's Ministry. Please contact Kristi Monroe for more information.
- **HUMC:** Christmas Basket Distribution is Saturday, December 23, 2023. 9:30—1:00 PM.
- **HUMC & TUMC:** Children's Christmas Eve Production is in the works, please contact Kristi Monroe for more information and to get your children involved: Kristie Monroe / (636) 357-3299 / kristiandawson@yahoo.com. This ministry is a great way for your children to invite their friends to come and join the fun.
- **HUMC:** Please see Jeni Van Houten to adopt a family for the Christmas Basket Event at Cell: 314-607-3161 or Email at jenivanhouten@yahoo.com.

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Hill-Tran Prayer Requests

- Holy Land, Iran, Ukraine, North Korea, Russia, NATO, EU, The Middle East, China, USA, Maui fire victims, and the rest of the world. The political landscape of America. Prayers for our shut-in members. People living on the margins, who are wounded, excluded, and suffering in any way. The unhoused in our communities, especially in St. Louis City & Jefferson County. For the countless shooting victims and to an end to violence around the world, especially in the Holy Land. Everyone impacted by an illnesses or accidents of any kind, especially cancer, COVID, and MS, & the many unspoken prayers.
- Our churches, Bob Mahon, Sandra Eason, Heather, Ashtyn, Alex, Lily Wren, Chris Thebeau, The Dunshees, Judy Edgar's brother, Maverick, Vicky, Gina, Peggy's friend Debbie, Mark & Kim Reed, Judy Davis, Baby Hazel, Riley, Barb Dotsy, Lynette & Dale, George and Charlotte, Jane & Angela, Lynn Schaffer, Sherry and Jerry Benton, Quilter: Janet and husband, Diana w/dementia, Vicky and Mike, Larry's brother's grandkids: Alex, Tanner, and Addie, Pastor Thirza, Gary and Sara Wynn, Greg Bieber, Rick Collins, Ray Henry, Brent Pouge, Henry Holden, Steve Bagwell, Marty and Donna, Mary Baumgartner & The Thebeaus, and Collin J. Schneider. Jane Wright, Paige, Louise Wiltz, Rose Slagg, Edna Mae and Norman, Mike and Janice Page, Nomads, Heather, Kari, Louis, Cheryl Campanya, Chris (PTSD), and Joleta.
Families that lost loved ones: The Sullens Family, Dr. Henry, Mickie/Mike, Bradley's, Beardslee's, Shirley & Wyman Cambre, Schaeffer's, Pratt's, Adam's, and others not named. **All those with MS:** Jeni, Benna, Joan, and Kristi's sister.

Hill-Tran Joys

- Advent starts today. (Hope is in the house)
- Hillsboro, Mizzou, and Kansas City football teams all win.
- Tis The Season (Christmas will soon be here)

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- Holy Land, Iran, Ukraine, North Korea, Russia, NATO, EU, The Middle East, China, USA, Maui fire victims, and the rest of the world. The political landscape of America. Prayers for our shut-in members. People living on the margins, who are wounded, excluded, and suffering in any way. The unhoused in our communities, especially in St. Louis City & Jefferson County. For the countless shooting victims and to an end to violence around the world, especially in the Holy Land. Everyone impacted by an illnesses or accidents of any kind, especially cancer, COVID, and MS, & the many unspoken prayers.
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Genesis 21:2-17 (CEB)

² She became pregnant and gave birth to a son for Abraham when he was old, at the very time God had told him. ³ Abraham named his son—the one Sarah bore him—Isaac.^[a] ⁴ Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old just as God had commanded him. ⁵ Abraham was 100 years old when his son Isaac was born. ⁶ Sarah said, “God has given me laughter. Everyone who hears about it will laugh with me.”^[b] ⁷ She said, “Who could have told Abraham that Sarah would nurse sons? But now I’ve given birth to a son when he was old!”

Hagar and Ishmael evicted

⁸ The boy grew and stopped nursing. On the day he stopped nursing, Abraham prepared a huge banquet. ⁹ Sarah saw Hagar’s son laughing, the one Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham. ¹⁰ So she said to Abraham, “Send this servant away with her son! This servant’s son won’t share the inheritance with my son Isaac.”

¹¹ This upset Abraham terribly because the boy was his son. ¹² God said to Abraham, “Don’t be upset about the boy and your servant. Do everything Sarah tells you to do because your descendants will be traced through Isaac. ¹³ But I will make of your servant’s son a great nation too, because he is also your descendant.” ¹⁴ Abraham got up early in the morning, took some bread and a flask of water, and gave it to Hagar. He put the boy in her shoulder sling and sent her away.

She left and wandered through the desert near Beer-sheba. ¹⁵ Finally the water in the flask ran out, and she put the boy down under one of the desert shrubs. ¹⁶ She walked away from him about as far as a bow shot and sat down, telling herself, I can’t bear to see the boy die. She sat at a distance, cried out in grief, and wept.

¹⁷ God heard the boy’s cries, and God’s messenger called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “Hagar! What’s wrong? Don’t be afraid. God has heard the boy’s cries over there.

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