

## CONTACT US

- **General Information & Other Ministry Contacts:**  
info@hilltran.org / (636) 671-0876
- **Senior/Teaching Pastor:** Harold Long  
pastor@hilltran.org / (314) 422-2395
- **Student Ministries:** (Contact Pastor Harold)
- **Children's Ministry Coordinator:** (Contact Pastor Harold)
- **Worship Leaders:** Monica Haley (636) 222-4779 or  
haleyfamily5@yahoo.com and Chrissy Dunshee (314) 420-7276  
or dcdunshee@yahoo.com
- **Today's Liturgist:** Jane Holdcraft

### Transformation UMC Contact Info

4869 Scottsdale Creek Blvd  
House Springs, MO 63051

Office hours: Wednesday 9-1:00 PM or by appointment  
B: (636) 671-0876 / email: pastor@hilltran.org

### Worship and Preaching Calendar

- January 21, 2024 - Unstoppable Six-Part Series on Acts, Part III
- January 28, 2024 - Unstoppable Six-Part Series on Acts, Part IV
- February 04, 2024 - Special Guest Speaker
- February 11, 2024 - Unstoppable Six-Part Series on Acts, Part V
- February 18, 2024 - Unstoppable Six-Part Series on Acts, Part VI

### Social Networks

**HUMC Facebook:** @HillsboroUMCMO

**TUMC Facebook:** @TransformationUMCMO

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

**Join Our Faithlife Community:** @<https://faithlife.com/hilltran-umc/>

**Website:** [www.hilltran.org](http://www.hilltran.org)

**Questions:** ask@hilltran.org

## Welcome to

## Transformation Church

January 21, 2024

### 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:** “Welcome to Church”

**1st Song - Bringing in the Light:** “Sweet Sweet Spirit” UMH#334

**2nd Song:** “Glorious Day”

**Welcome and Announcements:** Liturgist

**Call to Worship:** Liturgist

**Opening Prayer:** Liturgist

**Offering Message and Prayer:** Liturgist

**Giving:** Online @ [www.hilltran.org/online-giving/](http://www.hilltran.org/online-giving/)

**\*3rd Song:** “Come As Your Are”

**Prayers, Joys, and Concerns:** Pastor Harold

**Sharing of the Peace:** Welcome Your Neighbor

**Scripture Reading:** - Acts 4:1-5:11 (NLT)

**Sermon Bumper Video:** “Unstoppable”

**Message:** “Trouble is Certain for People of Faith” - Pastor Harold

**4th Song:** “Follow You”

**Sending Forth:** Pastor Harold

**Closing Song:** “Hello My Name Is”

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*"Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received - only what you have given: a full heart, enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage."*

~ **Francis of Assisi**

*"Having courage does not mean that we are unafraid. Having courage and showing courage mean we face our fears. We are able to say, 'I have fallen, but I will get up.'"*

~ **Maya Angelou**

*"They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself."*

~ **Andy Warhol**

## Reflection Questions

1. Why would they be "greatly disturbed" (Acts 4:2) by Peter's message?
2. Who are "John and Alexander" (Acts 4:6)?
3. Why did they ask, "By what power or by what name have you done this (Acts 4:7)?"
4. What is "the chief cornerstone" (Acts 4:11)?
5. Who were "uneducated" (Acts 4:13)?
6. Who were "untrained" (Acts 4:13) in religious matters?
7. Who stood with Peter and John?
8. What must every Christian read for themselves to know when they say things that contradict God?
9. What did the companions of Peter and John first acknowledge?
10. What do they cite next in Acts 4:25-26?
11. And what do they indicate in Acts 4:27?
12. What is reaffirmed in Acts 4:28?
13. What don't they ask for in Acts 4:29-30?
14. How soon did God answer their prayer?
15. When facing persecution, do you pray for it to decrease or for the Lord to empower you to serve Him through it?
16. How united were the thousands of new Christian converts?
17. What is the consequence of neglecting any Christian in need (see Matthew 25)?
18. Why don't pulpits preach this today?
19. Should pulpits preach what God said that offends sinners?
20. What did the "apostles" (Acts 4:37) do with the money Barnabas laid at their feet?
21. How serious of a sin is lying to the Holy Spirit?
22. Do you know anyone who calls Jesus "Lord" but continues to disobey Him and live in sin - i.e., "practice lawlessness"?

## Hill-Tran Announcements

- **HUMC Women's Group:** will meet on February 15, 2024, at 6:00 PM at HUMC.
- **HUMC Leadership Meeting:** Thursday, January 25, at 6:30 PM
- **TUMC Leadership Meeting:** Sunday, January 28, after service.
- **TUMC Launch Team Meeting:** Monday, February 5, 2023, on ZOOM at 6:00 PM.
- **HUMC Church & Mowing Teams:** We will need folks for the church cleaning and mowing teams in 2024. Please see Tina to serve on the church cleaning team or see Marty to serve on the mowing team. (Teams are on a Rotating Schedule)
- **HUMC Worship Team:** Please see Krystal Van Houten to join the praise and worship team. We would love for you to share your musical gifts and talents with our faith community. We strive to have live musicians and vocalists every week, performing a blend of traditional and contemporary music.
- **HUMC: Chicken and Dumpling Dates:** March 13-16, 2024 & October 23-26, 2024.
- **@TUMC: Joint-Service & Potluck:** (*The last one at TUMC*) on March 31, 2024
- **@HUMC: Joint-Service & Potluck:** (*Pastor Harold and Suzie's last Sunday*) at HUMC: June 30, 2024.
- **HUMC & TUMC: New Year Sermon Series "Unstoppable."** We are spending six weeks in the Book of Acts. The focus will be on how the early Christians formed and carried the gospel in a bold and effective way. How can HUMC, receiving a new pastor in July, and TUMC relaunching in 2025, learn and replicate from the early Christians to create thriving communities in the future?

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## Hill-Tran Prayer Requests

### Praying For \_\_\_\_\_, ...

- Peace in the Middle East & Ukraine.
  - The unhoused as cold and inclement weather begins.
  - The victims of violence of every kind.
  - The victims of all accidents, diseases, and illnesses.
  - The Bondurant's and all Nomads in mission, The Reiters, The Thebeaus, Mary Baumgarth, Rob's mother Ruby, Mary Lacey's friend Janet Kidd-Grannemann, The Thebeau's new grand baby "Todd David Overland II and their daughter." Joan Baumgarth, Suzie and Harold's friends daughter Shannon, Rick Collins, who are all dealing with cancer treatment.
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**Lord, please hear our prayers.**

### Hill-Tran Joys

- **HUMC & TUMC:** New Year & New Beginnings
- **FOOTBALL:** Chiefs (if they win) AFC Championship
- **HUMC:** We have heat!
- **HUMC & TUMC:** New Message Series "Unstoppable."
- **HUMC & TUMC:** We have dodged severe inclement weather so far, the cold weather a different story.

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## Act 4:1-13 (NLT)

### Peter and John before the Council

**4** While Peter and John were speaking to the people, they were confronted by the priests, the captain of the Temple guard, and some of the Sadducees. <sup>2</sup> These leaders were very disturbed that Peter and John were teaching the people that through Jesus there is a resurrection of the dead. <sup>3</sup> They arrested them and, since it was already evening, put them in jail until morning. <sup>4</sup> But many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of men who believed now totaled about 5,000.

<sup>5</sup> The next day the council of all the rulers and elders and teachers of religious law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, along with Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and other relatives of the high priest. <sup>7</sup> They brought in the two disciples and demanded, “By what power, or in whose name, have you done this?”

<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers and elders of our people, <sup>9</sup> are we being questioned today because we’ve done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? <sup>10</sup> Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene,<sup>[a]</sup> the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup> For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says,

‘The stone that you builders rejected  
has now become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup> There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.”

<sup>13</sup> The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus. <sup>14</sup> But since they could see the man who had been healed standing right there among them, there was nothing the council could say. <sup>15</sup> So they ordered Peter and John out of the council chamber and conferred among themselves.

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## Acts 4:14-28 (NLT)

<sup>16</sup> “What should we do with these men?” they asked each other. “We can’t deny that they have performed a miraculous sign, and everybody in Jerusalem knows about it. <sup>17</sup> But to keep them from spreading their propaganda any further, we must warn them not to speak to anyone in Jesus’ name again.” <sup>18</sup> So they called the apostles back in and commanded them never again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.

<sup>19</sup> But Peter and John replied, “Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him? <sup>20</sup> We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard.”

<sup>21</sup> The council then threatened them further, but they finally let them go because they didn’t know how to punish them without starting a riot. For everyone was praising God <sup>22</sup> for this miraculous sign—the healing of a man who had been lame for more than forty years.

### The Believers Pray for Courage

<sup>23</sup> As soon as they were freed, Peter and John returned to the other believers and told them what the leading priests and elders had said. <sup>24</sup> When they heard the report, all the believers lifted their voices together in prayer to God: “O Sovereign Lord, Creator of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them— <sup>25</sup> you spoke long ago by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor David, your servant, saying,

‘Why were the nations so angry?

Why did they waste their time with futile plans?

<sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth prepared for battle;

the rulers gathered together

against the LORD

and against his Messiah.’

<sup>27</sup> “In fact, this has happened here in this very city! For Herod Antipas, Pontius Pilate the governor, the Gentiles, and the people of Israel were all united against Jesus, your holy servant, whom you anointed. <sup>28</sup> But everything they did was determined beforehand according to your will. done through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

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## Acts 4:29-5:4 (NLT)

<sup>29</sup> And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word. <sup>30</sup> Stretch out your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

<sup>31</sup> After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.

### **The Believers Share Their Possessions**

<sup>32</sup> All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup> The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God’s great blessing was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them <sup>35</sup> and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need.

<sup>36</sup> For instance, there was Joseph, the one the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (which means “Son of Encouragement”). He was from the tribe of Levi and came from the island of Cyprus. <sup>37</sup> He sold a field he owned and brought the money to the apostles.

### **Ananias and Sapphira**

**5** But there was a certain man named Ananias who, with his wife, Sapphira, sold some property. <sup>2</sup> He brought part of the money to the apostles, claiming it was the full amount. With his wife’s consent, he kept the rest.

<sup>3</sup> Then Peter said, “Ananias, why have you let Satan fill your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit, and you kept some of the money for yourself. <sup>4</sup> The property was yours to sell or not sell, as you wished. And after selling it, the money was also yours to give away. How could you do a thing like this? You weren’t lying to us but to God!”

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## Acts 5:5-11 (NLT)

<sup>5</sup> As soon as Ananias heard these words, he fell to the floor and died. Everyone who heard about it was terrified. <sup>6</sup> Then some young men got up, wrapped him in a sheet, and took him out and buried him.

<sup>7</sup> About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. <sup>8</sup> Peter asked her, “Was this the price you and your husband received for your land?”

“Yes,” she replied, “that was the price.”

<sup>9</sup> And Peter said, “How could the two of you even think of conspiring to test the Spirit of the Lord like this? The young men who buried your husband are just outside the door, and they will carry you out, too.”

<sup>10</sup> Instantly, she fell to the floor and died. When the young men came in and saw that she was dead, they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. <sup>11</sup> Great fear gripped the entire church and everyone else who heard what had happened.

### Footnotes

a. 4:10 Or *Jesus Christ of Nazareth*.

b.

c. 4:11 Ps 118:22.

d. 4:15 Greek *the Sanhedrin*.

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