

Pastor's Report to Consistory May 2, 2016

April 2016 has been a month of looking ahead, as we have made plans by the Christian Education Committee for our **May 15** event. This will be a birthday party for Malek Said, the Palestinian Child supported by our Sunday school. For Malek's 7th birthday we are asking people to bring their pennies (or other spare change) for our penny jar. The Little Disciples prepared the party invitations and we are distributing them on Sunday, May 8. I have a Palestinian song to teach the group and there will be a game led by Chase Simons and Kyle Dugan. Along with the food that folks bring, we will also have some Middle Eastern food. We are holding this event in lieu of a church picnic this year. The party will be in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship.

We are also planning for our **joint worship at Hills Church on Philippines Sunday, June 12**. Hills will be hosting guests from our Global Mission Partnership with the Northwest Luzon Conference of the United Church of Christ of the Philippines. At this point, we are looking for housing for one more of the three guests. The worship service will be at 10:15 and the choir is invited to join with the Hill's Choir and there will also be a Filipino Choir. We might want to think of something representing Denmark Manor that we could send to our partner church, Piddig UCCP by way of the ambassadors who will be present. This will be a pot-luck picnic, so those who are able are asked to bring something to share. The Worship Committee is meeting on May 13, and we will be working out the details of carpooling for those who want rides. I am hoping that our entire Consistory would be present at this unifying event. So that Pastor Joseph could extend a formal invitation to Denmark Manor, he and I exchanged pulpits on May 1.

I have tentatively set the date for the next CROP Walk for October 2, 2016. John Titus is currently working to find someone to be the co-chair of this event, as I wish to step back from all of the responsibility of being the coordinator of the Walk. The first planning meeting will be here at Denmark Manor on May 18.

I am so grateful to everyone who pitched in to make our Beef Dinner, April 23, a grand success. In spite of some of our key leaders being unable to participate, we managed to get the food cooked and everything on the tables just as the dinner started at 4:00. Once again, people enthusiastically praised the meal.

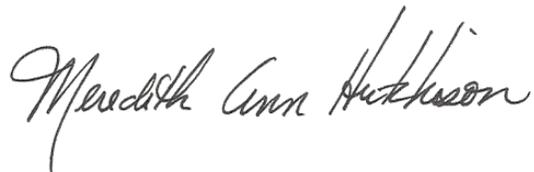
I officiated at the funeral of Sheila Sharatz on May 6. We honored her memory on that day and gave thanks for her faithfulness to the church and the long history of relationships that her family had in this congregation.

We had some responses from folks who received our letter of invitation who wanted to stay on our membership list, but many more who did not respond. Consistory must vote on those who are to be removed from the roll.

I have spent a considerable amount of time making pastoral calls during the month of April.

I am taking vacation time from June 28 through July 19. Rev. Robert McKie will fill in for me on July 3 and 17 and Rev. Bobbie Hine line will substitute on July 10.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Meredith Ann Hutchison". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Meredith Hutchison