

Holly Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Holly Presbyterian Church is a community of faith in God that values peaceful, loving, and just relationships in our church, families, and the world.

April 2014

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Holy Week Schedule

April 13th -20th



**April 13th:
Palm Sunday**

Worship at 11:00am

Reflections From Your Pastor on The Lenten Journey ...

How is it going? By the time you read this, we will have been in the wilderness for approximately 3 weeks. 23 days, not counting Sundays - the day we continue to remember the resurrection. A little over half way through the Lenten Journey.

Have you been fasting? Have you felt led to give up something that has grabbed a hold of you, something that is a sacrifice? I want to remind you again that fasting is about replacing that "thing" - whether it be sugar, wheat, chocolate, wine or maybe television or Facebook - with more time to focus on prayer and meditating on Scripture; developing strength in depending on and trusting in God instead of ourselves.

The psalmist says in Psalm 51 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart ..." In other words, God wants our hearts and spirits to be soft and pliable for God to form us into that new creation He has promised. He desires that we examine where we have turned from God and trusted more in ourselves and that we repent of that turning and then turn back to God again.

Jesus said, "Do it so it will not be obvious to others, so you aren't bragging or trying to get attention." (My paraphrase from Matthew 6:16-18). What I'm trying to say is that it is personal, something you

April 17th:
**Mundy Thursday Simple
Supper & Drama**
Supper at 6:30pm
Dramatic Service 7:15pm

~
April 18th:
Good Friday
Community Worship
at HPC at 12:00pm

~
April 20th:
Easter!
Resurrection Sunday
Worship at 11:00am

Missionary Updates. . .

Athletes in Action missionaries, **Colby and Sarah Keefer**, continue to reach college athletes in the name of Christ.



To catch up with them and their latest news click the link below.

[**Athletes in Action Latest Newsletter**](#)

Operation Transit:
Campus Crusade for
Christ missionaries, **Allen
and DeeDee Iobst**
Joined us for Worship
and a potluck January
26th to share their work
with us! It was a joy to
have them with the HPC
Family!



Alan and Dee Dee, along with their children, will be spending this year in the United States

do that is between you and the Lord. And if you fall? If you slip? There is the perfect place to turn to Him and ask Him to help you. That is where your dependency on God gets stronger.

Some people interpreted my telling you that Lent is 40 days, NOT including Sundays, as meaning that if you have decided on a Lenten discipline, you can take a break on Sunday. The thing is, you can do it however you feel is right, whatever you and God agree on, whatever will strengthen you the most. But, just to be clear, I believe the journey of Lent is the entire season, including Sundays. It's just that on Sunday - the Resurrection of the Lord's Day - we still remember and give thanks for the resurrection in worship.

My prayer is that when Easter comes, we will be so renewed spiritually that as we sing those Alleluia songs, it will be with tremendous, genuine joy! Easter is coming! Stay in the wilderness just a little longer, my friends.

Peace and Grace,
Reverend Sharlyn



Reflections from Pastor Shaun...

Lent is one of my favorite times in the church because this gives everyone a chance to take a spiritual inventory of where they are with the church and determine what is hindering them from having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

For other people in the church I have spoken with since Ash Wednesday they tell me it is all about the challenge to see if they can last the forty days by not eating or doing something they gave up for Lent.

When I hear that people have put a challenge in front of themselves for Lent I am always amazed at what lengths people go to make sure they keep their Lenten promises. For me this year it has been chocolate. Because regardless if it is used in making cookies, brownies, ice cream or anything else they can make with chocolate I will eat it faster than the cookie monster eats cookies.

Where are you this Lenten season? Are you reading this reflection and know you have not been to church for a while, then I have a challenge for you? Come back for forty days and begin a new relationship with both Jesus and the church. For those of you who are reading this saying I attend on regular bases I challenge you and your family to ask one person or a family to church in the next forty days.

Peace through Christ-
Shaun



Since classes
reconnecting with family,
attending training
conferences, and feeding
their faith.

To catch up with them and
their latest news click the
link below.

[Campus Crusade
for Christ
Operation Transit
Website](#)

or

[lobst Newsletter](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark these dates on you
calendar!

Saturday, May 3rd
May Day!
Family Fun Fair

Saturday, May 17th
Presbyterian Women
Spring Gathering
Linden Pres. Church

Sunday, June 8th
Gather 'Round Picnic!

Saturday June 14th
General Assembly
Opening Worship

REMINDER!



Memorial Easter
Lilies must be
ordered by
April 6th!

The sign up sheet is in the
narthex!

**Annual
All Church
Retreat**



Bake Sale



Boiler Fund Bake Sale!!!

*April 13th will be the next bake sale to support our
efforts to replace the old boiler. Please support this
effort by baking or by eating. . .
Which ever you are better at :)*

*Mary Renico and Beth Dryer are the
contact people for this month.
Let them know if you have any questions!*

Finance Team Report

2014 Income and Expenses

Description	February 28,2014	Year to Date
Budgeted income	\$ 9,037.36	\$18,717.27
Budgeted expenses	\$ 14,742.54	\$26,458.69

Donations to cover our Per Capita expense received through the end of
March were \$1012.36 . Thank you.

One
great hour
of sharing.

"There is a boy here who has five
barley loaves and two fish. But what
are they among so many people?"
-John 6:9

GOD USES ALL GIFTS FOR
BIG PURPOSES

IT'S REMARKABLE WHAT YOUR GIFT WILL DO.

Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with millions of other
Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with
those in need. Your generous gifts assist the One Great Hour of
Sharing by:

- enabling the Presbyterian Hunger Program to help transform lives
and enrich communities (36%)



Camp Echo Grove
 August 22-23, 2014
Mark your calendar
now! Registration
begins soon!

If you would like to help plan the retreat see retreat chairperson Sara Pettit for more details or email her by [Clicking Here](#)

- helping community growth and progress by supporting programs like Self-Development of People (32%)
- supporting the Presbyterian Mission Agency ministries as they strive to help transform suffering into healing and hope through programs like the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32%)

*Our congregation will receive this offering on
 Palm Sunday April 13th and
 Easter Sunday April 20th.*

Easter Basket Outreach Project



The Outreach Team will again be donating 50 Easter baskets to Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac. If you would like to donate to this worthwhile project, following are some suggestions that might help in your shopping:

- indiv. wrapped candy
- hot wheels
- crayons, coloring books, etc.
- word search bks, puzzles, etc.
- sidewalk chalk
- play jewelry, mardi gras beads, etc.
- bubbles
- other items you think would be enjoyed by kids

All donations need to be brought to the church by Sunday April 6th please.

Anyone wishing to join in the fun of stuffing these baskets, please come to the church on Wed. April 9th at 1:00



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13th

Sunday School & TFC 9:30am
 Fellowship Hour 10:30am
 Hosanna! Worship 11:00am

Maundy Thursday, April 17th

Simple Supper 6:30pm
A simple meal will be provided for all.
Dramatic Worship 7:15pm
"The Last Supper"

Good Friday, April 18th

Community Worship 12:00pm
*We are hosting this year's ecumenical gathering
of the Holly area congregations to worship together.*
Fellowship Hour 1:00pm

Resurrection Sunday, April 20th

Fellowship Hour 10:30am
Hallelujah! Worship 11:00am

April Calendar of Events

Apr 2 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
Apr 3 PRESBYTERIAN WOMENS STUDY 6:30pm
AYSO MTG 7:00pm
Apr 6 TEENS FOR CHRIST MTG 9:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:30am
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE HOUR 10:30am
WORSHIP 11:00am - Fifth Sunday in Lent
AA 3:00pm
Apr 7 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
Apr 8 TEAM PARTY NIGHT 6:30pm
Apr 9 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
Apr 11 BABY PANTRY 10am - 12pm
MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Apr 13 TEENS FOR CHRIST MTG 9:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:30am
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE HOUR 10:30am
WORSHIP 11:00am Palm Sunday! Hosanna!
AA 3:00pm
Apr 14 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
Apr 15 SESSION MTG 7:00pm
Apr 16 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
Apr 17 MAUNDY THURSDAY SIMPLE SUPPER & DRAMA SERVICE
Supper provided at 6:30pm
Dramatic Worship "The Last Supper" at 7:15pm
COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE (at HPC) 12:00pm ~ Reception
to follow
Apr 19 BABY PANTRY 10am - 2pm
Apr 20 FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE HOUR 10:30am
WORSHIP 11:00am HE IS RISEN!
AA 3:00pm
Apr 21 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
Apr 23 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
Apr 25 BABY PANTRY 10am - 12pm
Apr 27 TEENS FOR CHRIST MTG 9:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:30am
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE HOUR 10:30am
WORSHIP 11:00am
AA 3:00pm
Apr 28 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
Apr 30 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon





Study Opportunities!

The Gathering Place for Kids Sunday at 9:30 am

Our kids program uses the Spark Activate Faith curriculum and is a Workshop Rotation modeled classroom where our kids get to explore their faith through, art, science, cooking, computers, games, stories, music & drama!

Register your family and Check it out! <http://hollypc.sparksundayschool.org>

Adult Sunday School 2013-2014 Sunday at 9:30 am

Comparative Religions is our current topic and it has been very interesting so far! How does one religious tradition often differ so markedly from another? This is something we will be studying since religions, which form the foundations for a wide range of moral codes, can and do influence the actions of nations on the world stage, of which we are a part. Everyone is welcome to join us any week you are able.

Wednesday Lunch Bunch! 12:00 noon

The Lunch Bunch meets at noon on Wednesday for an informal Bible study. We are currently studying the Book of Exodus. Charlee Litten is the leader for this study and does a great job of helping look at the scriptures in new ways and with great joy and humor! Everyone is welcome to attend when ever they are able, just bring your bible if you have one (We have loaners too!) and little something for your lunch!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY "Abiding Hope"

Each month the women of the church are invited to gather together with Rev. Sharlyn as she leads the Horizon's 2013-2014 Bible Study "Abiding Hope". We will meet the first Thursday of each month to explore the word of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy. The Study Materials are available for a cost of \$10 if you do not already subscribe to Horizon's Magazine. Please let Laura Parker know if you need to have a book ordered for you.

April 3rd is our next study, we hope you will join us.

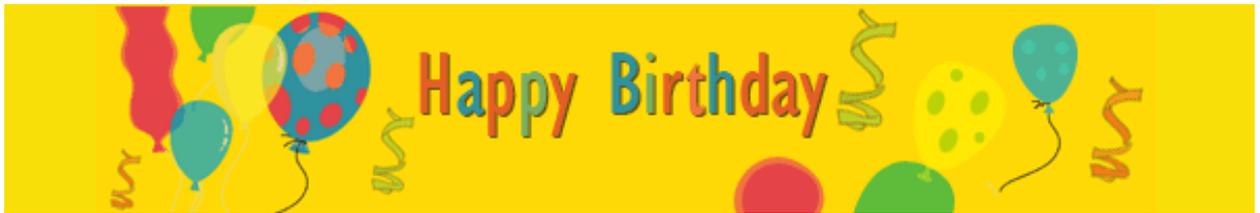
Praying for our church family *Prayers of Concern*

- For those serving or who have served us and our country in military service.

- For all those who are in nursing homes, shut in, or seeking comfort and healing.
- For Beatrice Johnston, Judy Blackburn, Nicole Conway, Grace Ranger, Brian Palmero, Butch & Linda Crider, Sara Erzen, Jeff Watkins, Leon Parker, Maxine Bolyea, Kennedy Todd, Sandy Brown, Jaymi Whalen, Virgil Ross, Don Murphy, grandfather of Josh Banks, and Keaton Banks.
- For all those affected by the violence and war around the globe.
- For all those suffering as a result of the devastating weather, natural disasters, and global violence these past months.

Prayers of Joy

- We pray that this season of Lent will truly be a time of renewal for us and for all the congregations in our community.



As part of our Care Team game plan we will recognize birthdays and anniversaries each month. Please take a moment and pray for each of these people this month.

Jerry Litten April 1 ~ Margaret Perry April 13 ~ Gerry Jackson April 17 ~ Cathie Killewald April 18 ~ Sharlyn Gates April 20 ~ Broady Cook April 22 ~ Kathy Henn April 23 ~ Marilyn Hope April 23 ~ Jan Bradshaw April 25 ~ Christine Cook April 29 ~

Happy Anniversary

*Love bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things*
(Corinthians 13:4-8)

Anniversaries: Fran & Peter Olson April 3rd : 49 Years ~ Charlee & Jerry Litten April 16 : 50 years ~ Barb & Walt Brown April 21 : 52 Years~



Team Party Night!

COME ONE, COME ALL!

Have you been thinking about joining one of the Committees in the church (now called Teams) but are not sure which one would be a good fit for you?

Well, we are doing a new thing which might help you to figure it out - and have some fun while doing it.

Every second Tuesday of the month, which for this month is **April 8th**, all the Teams will meet together at 6:30 for a light supper and then will separate for doing their Team work. Later, they will come back together to share with one another what they are planning. You could come and visit different Teams to see where you feel God might be leading you. Our Teams have a good time together and we would like to share that with more of our congregation. We hope you will join us!





Prayer Requests from Presbytery. . . .

- The Rev. Ernesto Badillo, our long-time Board of Pensions Representative, and his family as Ernesto battles colon cancer.
- The Family and Loved Ones of Elder Karen Banaszak who passed to the larger life earlier this week. Karen was a Certified Christian Educator, served on several presbytery committees and as a GA commissioner in 2006. She was also very active in APCE (Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators) and GLAPCE (Great Lakes Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators). She was a former Vice President of GLAPCE.
- The Presbytery of Detroit as they prepare to host the 221st General Assembly in June. [Click here](#) to watch a video lifting up "Why Detroit?" and assembly theme "Abound in Hope".
- Davison-St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



Support HPC Ministries by ordering Scrip Order March 30th - Delivery April 6th

We receive a small profit from the sale of each card, which goes toward our everyday expenses. The church should net approximately \$500 this year from this easy fundraiser.

In addition to the *gas, grocery, and restaurant cards* that most of us order throughout the year, there are also gift cards available for many *major retail stores, amazon.com, and iTunes*.

**Look at the complete list of cards available by
[Clicking Here](#)**

If you do not feel comfortable using a computer, talk to Christine Cook or Vicki Lyles and we can let you know if what you want is available. Thank you for your support!!

ALL NEW VG'S SHARE PROGRAM!

VG's grocery store has a new program that will replace the Community Share Points Program we are familiar with now. Please click on the link below to see how you can participate going forward. If you have further questions please see Jan Bradshaw.



[Click Here!](#)

Property Team Update:





**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
SPRING CLEAN UP DAY APRIL 12th**

Spring is really coming!!!

Let's get our facility ready for Holy Week and the
Community Good Friday Service that we are hosting!

HELP KEEP OUR BUILDING SAFE & SECURE.

A friendly reminder to everyone that we all need to be sure that doors are being locked, and pulled tightly closed when leaving the building. We have had a few instances where doors have been found open or ajar. Thanks!

In the Beginning News!



Prayer requests from our families:

- Pray for all those in difficult relationships, struggling with emotional and physical abuse, and self doubt. May they be comforted by the love of Christ.
- Pray for young families facing custody conflicts - may they find peace and resolution.
- Pray for those parents who are not getting enough hours on their work schedules.
- Pray for those parents who are seeking work.
- Pray for the Kline children and their grandparents as they continue to adjust to life changes.

UPCOMING DATES:

Fri. April 11, 10am -12pm. Sat. April 19, 10am -2pm,
and Fri. April 25, 10am -12pm.

***BABY PANTRY HOSTS ARE NEEDED TO HELP!
IF YOU CAN VOLUNTEER EVEN FOR A FEW HOURS
PLEASE LET BEKI COOK KNOW! THANKS!***

SUPPLY NEEDS:

We are low on size 0-2 diapers, wipes, tissues, and hand soap. Please help us keep this important ministry well stocked for the winter season. Many of our families work seasonal jobs

and winter can be particularly difficult. If you feel called to this ministry please see a TFC member, Christine Cook, or Laura Parker.

"And he took the Children in his arms, put His hands on them and blessed them."

Mark 10:16

Supporting Missions . . .



The Keefer Family-Athletes in Action
Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor, Mi

The lobst Family- Operations Transit
Algeciras, Spain
(Both Working Under Campus Crusade for Christ)

Grace Centers of Hope
Pontiac, Mi

Ennis Foundation
Pontiac, Mi

HPC Christmas - Adopt a Family

In the Beginning Baby Pantry

Forgotten Harvest Food Pantry
Holly, Mi

For Your Information. . .

- If you have something that you would like included in the newsletter please submit it to the church office by the 15th of the month prior. Thanks!
- If you are not receiving the Email Newsletter and other e-updates and would like to, please call the office at 248-634-9494 and we would be happy to add your email to our list!
- If you have had a change of phone, email or mailing address in the past year, we would like to know so that we can make sure everyone's contact information is current in our database.

Your 2014 Session

Class of 2014

Karen Haneline

Care Team

(248) 634-7339

Judy Studer

Outreach Team

(248) 634-8918

Margaret Berry

Fellowship Team

(810) 725-7602

Margaret Perry Fellowship Team (810) 755-7692

Class of 2015

Charlee Litten Personnel Team (810) 694-0095

Dessalee Cook Worship Team (248) 634-5680

Jim Lyles Clerk of Session (248) 634-4610

Nick Pettit Technology Team (810) 869-4883

Class of 2016

Christine Cook Christian Education Team (248) 887-6647

Lori Goldsmith Property Team (248) 397-9722

Bob Killewald Finance Team (248) 310-2410

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn Gates 248.369.8893(h)

620.423.2671(c)

**Assoc. Pastor of Young Adult Ministry:
Shaun Hardimon** 810.635.0586(h)

586.292.8772(c)