



HPC CONNECTIONS

MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 19, ISSUE 3

Reflections from your pastor ...

In the year 2011, on March 1st, I started to work as pastor at Holly Presbyterian Church. And that very next week we began the journey of Lent, starting with Ash Wednesday – a soup and bread supper. Our Lenten Study was a very meaningful study by Reverend Adam Hamilton, and we had a big crowd attending the study that year.



Well, here it is, March of 2019 and Lent is here once again! This will be my last time to share the Lenten journey with you, my dear congregation. On March 6th, we will observe Ash Wednesday with the imposition of ashes in a special worship service that will – God willing – be in our beautiful sanctuary. Of course, we will enjoy our soup and bread supper before that service. Please mark your calendars and be sure you come for this very meaningful time in the church.

This year's Lenten study is again, a great one by Rev. Hamilton. It is simply titled ***Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple*** and again, we will see a video in each session where Rev. Hamilton is teaching on sight.

Our study will begin on March 13th and go through Holy Week. As always, we will meet in the Community Room at 7 p.m. (Unless we have a huge crowd and need to meet upstairs! I can dream, can't I?) The Sessions are titled:

1. The Call of the Fisherman
2. Walking with Jesus in the Storm
3. Bedrock or Stumbling Block?
4. "I Will Not Deny You"
5. From Cowardice to Courage
6. The Rest of the Story

Like Simon Peter, we too are called to follow Jesus. The study invites us to participate with these words: *"Peter was just an ordinary guy who heard and followed God's extraordinary call. Discover how you, too, have special gifts, talents, and abilities that God can use to make a difference today."*

I pray that this Lenten Study on Simon Peter will draw you in and that we will have a very meaningful journey together in this Lenten Season. I'm looking forward to spending this time with you.

Peace, Grace and Love!

Reverend Sharlyn

March Anniversaries

Rev Fred & Rev Dr Sharlyn Gates | March 3rd

35 Years

Congratulations and God Bless you on so many years together!



March birthday wishes go out to: God Bless you all on your special day!

Terry Parish	March 5th	Laura Parker	March 23rd
Bill Weiss	March 11th	Tom Schettling	March 24th
Mary Renico	March 12th	Fran Olson	March 30th
Norm Clement	March 16th	Debbie Russell	March 30th
Pam Remillard	March 18th		

Ash Wednesday Supper & Service - Join us on March 6th for our Soup & Bread Supper at 6:15 pm, followed by our Service at 7:15 pm. Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring a friend. If you can make soup or bread for this event, please see Cathie Killewald and/or sign up on the Ash Wednesday sheet.



Acting in Faith

Food Pantry: In support of the important work being done in the community by our brothers & sisters in Christ at the First Baptist Church of Holly, we continue to collect non-perishable food for their Food Pantry. Place items in the collection tote in the narthex. Thank you for your support.

Great Lakes Scrip Program - Support our church by buying your gift cards from HPC. If you have any questions please see Vicki. Thanks for your support! **March Dates:** Card orders placed on **Mar 3rd**, are available for pick up on **Mar 10th**.

Do you shop on Amazon? If so, please sign up on Amazon Smile. You can select Holly Presbyterian Church as your organization. Then shop as usual. A part of the proceeds will come to us. It doesn't cost you anything! It is that easy!

Recycle - Please bring in your ink cartridges and batteries. We can turn some of them into cash for office supplies.



GETTING INTO THE WORD OF GOD

Adult Sunday School meets at 9:30 am and is now studying "Jesus and His Jewish Influence." The course, led by Barb Brown.

Worship

Fellowship & Coffee starts at 10:30 am.
Sundays at 11:00 am.



Men & Womens Bible Study

Starting March 13th we will be studying *Simon Peter*.

Wednesday nights 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm Please sign up for a book on the table in the narthex. The cost for a book is \$15.

**Children's Sunday School* - Sundays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

*Nursery provided

A little something about Peter Simon

He was just an ordinary guy who heard and followed God's Extraordinary call. Discover how you, too, have special gifts, talents, and abilities that God can use to make a difference today.

Care Team

Quote for the month: *Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.* 1 Timothy 6:18-19

When I come home, I reach into my pockets and remove any coins remaining from a day of spending. A jar on the counter holds these leftover portions that I once considered hardly worth saving. As the jar grows heavy, I understand the power of accumulation.

Lord, help me be aware of way to spend goodness throughout the day. May I never consider a portion of kindness too small or insignificant to receive or give. I know that each act of compassion acculates in heaven. -from One Minute Prayers to Begin and End Your Day.

Baby Pantry: Upcoming dates when the Baby Pantry is open: Fri, Mar 8th; Sat Mar 16th; Fri Mar 22nd all from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Baby Needs: We are in need of baby shampoo, baby wash, baby wipes, diaper cream and baby lotion. Donations can be placed in the crib in the Narthex. Financial donations can be placed in the offering plate with a notation on the envelope marked "Baby Pantry". Thank you so much for your continued support.

Healthy Check up: will be on Sunday, March 17th. Don't forget to see Nurse Karen. Your health could depend on it.

Jan Bradshaw, Beth Dryer, Loretta Weiss, Karen Haneline and Tom Schettling



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Regular Weekly Events

Sunday

9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Fellowship & Coffee
11:00 am Worship
11:00 am Children's Sunday School
3:00 pm AA
4:30 pm Confirmation Class

Monday

7:30 pm AA & Alanon

Tuesday thru Thursday

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Friends with Needs

Wednesday 7:00 pm Men's & Women's Bible Study

Schedule of Additional Events

Mar 2nd	10:00 am - 12:00 pm Comfort Circle
Mar 3rd	10:00 am <i>Fellowship Team Meeting</i>
Mar 5th	<i>Team Meeting-all are encouraged to attend</i> 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Outreach 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Information Technology 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Personnel 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Christian Education
Mar 6th	6:15 pm Soup & Bread Supper for Ash Wednesday 7:15 pm Ash Wednesday Service
Mar 8th	10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
Mar 12th	10:00 am Freedom Work Opp (FH) <i>Team Meeting-all are encouraged to attend</i> 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm Care 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Worship 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Property No meeting this month-Finance
Mar 14th	7:00 pm AYSO
Mar 15th	Newsletter Articles Due
Mar 16th	10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
Mar 17th	Healthy Check up

March Calendar continued

- Mar 19th 7:00 pm Session Meeting
- Mar 22nd 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
- Mar 31st Children's Presentation

Finance Team

Income Jan \$ 9,188.88 | YTD \$ 9,188.88

Expenses Jan \$14,236.74 | YTD \$14,236.74



Our Per Capita Payment -We received through February 10: \$1,051.39. Our goal is \$1,300.00. Thank
Thank you to those who have contributed to this.

Finance Team: Bob Killewald, Vicki Lyles, Carrie Duncanson, Laura Parker, and Rev. Sharlyn Gates

Pray for Missionaries & Lake Huron Presbytery

- **Mission Co-Workers** -The Rev Cathy Chang and family who are serving in the Philippines. Michael & Rachel Ludwig who are serving in Niger.
- **Our Missionaries** - Colby & Sarah Keefer & family in Ypsilanti (Athletes in Action), and Allen & Deedee Iobst & family in Spain.
- *See both Iobst & Keefer's latest Newsletter by double clicking on [Iobst](#) & [Keefer](#) at the beginning of the email.*



KEEFER FAMILY



IOBST FAMILY

From the Lion's Den

In this season when sessions are remitting their per capita assessments, I am sometimes asked the questions, "What does per capita do?" and "Why do we have to pay it?" Let me offer some answers forthwith.

WHAT IS PER CAPITA? Since the mid-1800s, per capita assessments have been a means of sharing the costs of operating the administrative structures, or councils, of the denomination: presbytery, the synod, and the General Assembly. Per capita is not the only source of funding -

many presbyteries and synods have endowed or reserve funds that contribute towards their budgets; some receive mission donations only and do not have per capita at all. The General Assembly used to have significant undesignated reserves, but these have been depleted due to non-payment of per capita and maintaining an artificially low rate over many years.

Per capita assessment may be compared to bringing a dish to a potluck supper or chipping in for the price of gas for a road trip: it is our participation in the cost of something from which we all receive benefit. Per capita assessments share costs across presbyteries and congregations on an equitable basis.

WHAT DOES PER CAPITA PAY FOR? In many councils, per capita and mission funding streams are kept distinct: per capita pays for administrative expenses and mission pledges and donations fund mission endeavors. This is an artificial distinction, however, as mission relies on administrative support and much of what constitutes "administration" also promotes mission. In the Presbytery of Lake Huron, we have a unified budget which combines both mission pledges and per capita assessments to fund the total ministry of the Presbytery.

Roughly 36% of our presbytery operations budget is funded by per capita, about 37% through mission pledges, and about 27% by investment income (including our share of interest from a bequest administered by Detroit Presbytery). Personnel expenses for our staff (one full-time executive, one part-time stated clerk, and three part-time support staff) comprise 72% of the budget. This is typical for presbyteries our size. About 23% funds the direct administrative expense of maintaining our building, holding our quarterly assemblies, and supporting the work of our committees. About 5% is direct support of mission partners and budget-funded grants. This does not include either the per capita assessments and mission funds we receive and remit toward the work of the Synod of the Covenant and the General Assembly, or grants funded through our various reserve accounts.

HOW IS PER CAPITA DETERMINED? Per capita assessments are based on the budgets approved by commissioners at each level of the church, divided by the number of members in each. General Assembly and synod assessments are levied on presbyteries, which may distribute its liability - along with an assessment for its own operation - upon the sessions of its churches. The General Assembly assessment for 2019 is \$8.95 per member and the Synod of the Covenant is \$3.25. On top of this, the Presbytery of Lake Huron assesses sessions at a rate of \$16.57 per church member for a total of \$28.77. This is among the lowest per capita assessments in our synod. By contrast, many western presbyteries have per capita assessments in excess of \$50.00.

Per capita assessments paid by individual members are not "dues" - they are voluntary contributions made to offset the amount paid by their sessions, and in turn, by the presbytery.

We are blessed in our presbytery to have near 100% pay-in of per capita expenses by sessions, which helps keep our rates low.

Thanks to our sessions and faithful members for sharing the cost of being Presbyterian!

For more information, our Presbytery has a bulletin insert that discusses per capita, which can be found on our website under "[Documents and Forms](#)." The General Assembly has many resources which can be found at <http://pcusa.org/percapita>.

Faithfully,

Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter

dsaperstein@presbylh.org

OUR PRAYERS, CONCERNS AND JOYS:

- Remember to *pray daily* for this church and our pastor.
- Strength, renewal, and healing for:** Ron Schram (Julie Parish's Dad & Mary Renico's brother-in-law), Jake Vedeer (Kenzie Nash's friend), Darrell Strickler (Kathleen Howe's brother-in-law), Debbie Russell, Loretta Weiss, Norm & Charlene Clement, Roberta Single, Linda Living-Hawley (Tyrone Community Church), Lisa Martin, Fran Olson, Jim Striggow (Penny Schettling's cousin), Joe Watkins (Laura Parker's brother), Cindy Glenn (Elizabeth Kici's granddaughter's mother-in-law), Helen Timko (Penny Schettling's friend), Joan Davis, Hadleigh Banks, Jim Pelton, Linda Larmon & Susan Houghton (Mandie Banks' aunts), Linda Burns, Jan Owens (Rev Sharlyn's sister), Diane Scubiak (step granddaughter of Elizabeth Kici), Tammy Vally (neighbor of Elizabeth Kici), Linda Voll (Karen Haneline's friend), Denny & Beverly Glass (Elizabeth Kici's friend's daughter), and William Woodard (Rev Fred Gates grandson).
- Prayers and comfort to the families of** Keith Magnuson (Kevin's father, wife Val)



Fellowship Team

- Join us for Coffee & Fellowship at 10:30 am



COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR MARCH: MAR 3RD, MAR 10TH, MAR 17TH, MAR 24TH, MAR 31ST

- Fellowship Team Meeting this month is March 3rd at 10:00 am.** All are welcome to attend.

Cathie Killewald, Pam Remillard, Mary Renico, Beth Dryer, Margaret Perry, Donna Miller, Colleen Spring, Roberta Single, Elizabeth Kici, Fran Olson

The Parish Paper - *Ideas and Insights for Active Congregations*

Grab your copy of The Parish Paper in the narthex or you can download it at the beginning of this email by clicking on PP January highlighted in blue [PP March](#)



TEAM MEETINGS FOR MARCH

The times indicated are approximate and may vary. If you would like to join a team or see what it is all about, just come at the selected time to the church and see the Team leader. We always need input and ideas. **All are welcome.**

Fellowship Team Meeting March 3rd at 10:00 am back of Fellowship Hall

Team Meetings for March 5th

Outreach 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Information Technology 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Personnel 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Christian Education 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Team Meetings for March 12th

Care 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Worship 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Property 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Finance 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm



Which one is you?

Session meets March 19th at 7:00 pm



2019 Session

Class of 2019

Laura Parker | Christian Ed Team | (248) 248-245-5348

Randy Cook | Property Team | (248) 221-9044

Bob Killewald | Finance Team | (248) 310-2410

Class of 2020

Cathie Killewald | Fellowship Team | (248) 310-2411

Jan Bradshaw | Care Team | (248) 459-1181

Donna DeNise | Outreach | (248) 248-634-3760

Jim Lyles | Clerk | (248) 396-4695

Class of 2021

Ellen Paulson | Personnel Team | (248) 320-0375

Tom Schettling | Worship Team | (248) 245-8810

Walt Brown | Technology Team | (810) 629-1618

Moderator

The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn DeHaven Gates

(248) 390-0378