

## TIDINGS

JUNE 2006

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Z RIA

ш

m

HOL LY

œ

#### NEWS AND UP-DATES

CONGREGA-TIONAL NEWS

JUST FOR KIDS

EVENTS CALEN-DAR

OUR LIFE A **TOGETHER** 

ANNOUNCE. MENTS

MISSIONS 8 UPDATE

INTERIM NOTES

Exciting things have been happening at Holly PC

this spring. As we go to press with this newsletter, the church is just coming off of an outstanding Ya'll Come Sunday that had a special sense of enthusiasm and meaning to it. We had a good turn out. We received the largest communicants class in years.

In the course of the service, the session announced a slate of nominees for the church's pastoral nominat-

ing committee (PNC). That was exciting, too. The interim period from the time Jack left down to the present is just two years. which is a fairly long time to wait for the forming of a PNC. We trust and believe that God has been using these months to prepare both the church for its next pastorate and a pastor to come to lead HPC in the years to come.

So, what comes next? First, we hold a congregational meeting to elect the PNC. That will be after worship on June 4th. The slate selected

by the session will be presented, and there will be an opportunity for other nominations from the floor. Then there will be an election. All of this is "by the book," the book being our denomination's constitution, The Book of Order.

Once the PNC has been elected, it will meet with a specialist trained by presbytery to work with nominating committees and begin its work.

Continued on page 8...

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- If you know of anyone needing a large print newsletter, please call Terl at the office: 248-634-9494
- Herb's e-mall is: hpointerim@sboglobal. net and his phone is: (810) 714-3290
- Summer worship hours begin 6/11: 10:00 Worship No Sunday School

#### SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

All members of the congregation are strongly encouraged to attend a special meeting of the congregation after worship on June 4th. At that time, the session will present a slate of candidates for the Pastoral Nominating Committee That slate includes: Gordie (PNC). Brandshaw, Randy Cook, Jim Lyles, Judy Studer, and Mary Ann Vergith as members and Brian Murphree and Margaret Perry as alternate members. The congregation will have the opportunity to nominate other PNC members.

If you intend to nominate a person to the PNC please be sure to get their permission ahead of time.



Congregational MEETING

HPC TIDINGS

#### **NEWS AND UPDATES**

#### One Great Hour of Sharing AT HPC



Thank you, Holly PC! Our Lenten drive for the One Great Hour of Sharing netted a total of \$605.00. This is a good showing, and the contributions you made will go to a number of important causes including continued disaster relief work in the Gulf states.

# HPC Today: Some Results from the Congregational Questionnaire

During April, the Congregational Study Team collected 62 questionnaires from members of the church. The team is still studying and preparing to report the results, but there are some interesting points that can be reported at this time. For example,

- Over 70% of those who filled out the form expressed overall satisfaction with the life of the church while over 80% agreed that HPC does meet their personal spiritual needs. Over 90% affirmed that being a member of HPC helps them lead better Christian lives.
- When asked if they want the order of worship to change from week to week, over 30% said, "no," over 40% said, "yes," and a little less than 20% felt ambiva-

lent about a constantly changing worship service. Slightly fewer than 50% do not want the church to move away from traditional worship while over 30% support such a move. At the same time, over 60% of those who responded agree that HPC will have to change significantly in the years to come.

 About 70% of those who filled out the questionnaire affirm that being a Presbyterian is important to them. A little less than 20% say it is not important.

Some 75% of those who responded express optimism about HPC's future. At the same time, about 35% express worry over who the next pastor will be while over 40% are not worried.

The study team would like to thank all of those who supported their work by returning a filled out form. The data it has received will be of value to the session and, especially, to the PNC. Thank You!

#### Theology For All of Us

Columbia Theological Seminary has developed a website for thinking about God (theology) that is aimed at those of us without any formal training in theology. Its current subject is "theology after disaster" and focuses on how we understand the pain and hurt inflicted by natural disasters from a Christian perspective. Check it out! The address is: www.atthispoint.net.

**athis** point theological investigations in church and culture

#### PENNIES FROM HEAVEN



HPC has been taking up the "Pennies from Heaven" collection for nearly two years. It's original intention was to provide the seed money for carrying out needed capital improvements for our facilities. With the plans for the extensive renovation of the church's narthex (foyer), this collection will now be used to augment the pledge drive being carried out by the Stewardship Committee. We urge all of our members and friends to continue to put in their pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollars into the Pennies from Heaven bucket. These "modest" contributions have amounted to over \$6,000, which is a substantial help now and will continue to be of real help in the future.

We do want to emphasize that the Pennies from heaven offering is not intended to be an alternative to pledging support for the renovations. It is intended to supplement those pledges. THANK YOU! for your contributions to Pennies from Heaven and keep up the good work!

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 6 Page 3

#### CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

#### **Worship in June**

The theme for the worship services and sermons for June is: "The Apostle Paul's Letter(s) to Holly PC."

June 4 - Galatians 5:13-26 on the subject of "Live by the Spirit"

June 11 - Colossians 1:15-20 on the subject "The Supreme Christ"

June 18 - Philippi ans 2:1-11 on the topic "ME & Christ"

June 25 - Titus 2:9-10. The title of the sermon will be, "Huh?"

#### From the Congregational Care Committee...

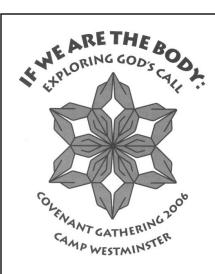
#### **Attention All Grads!**

We will be honoring our graduates on Sunday, June 18. Please let Jan Bradshaw know if you are graduating from high school or college and would like to participate in the service and reception afterward. Thank you!



#### Thank You!

Thank you for making the kitchen shower such a success! Your generous gifts and cash do nations have enabled us to meet our kitchen needs. God Bless You!! There were 17 of us who attended the "shower" on April 29-- we enjoyed pizza, salad and ice cream sundaes-- all while vying for a prize on the word games.



We Are the Body: Exploring God's Call

Covenant Gathering 2006 "Synod School"

#### **Camp Westminster**

116 Westminster Drive Roscommon, MI 48653

June 19 - 24, 2006

#### HPC's New, Exciting "Open Door Policy"

The fellowship hall wing was dedicated in 1960 and has proven to be an important, useful facility over the years. One thing that happened when it was attached to the original church building, however, is that the church's front entrance was hidden behind a brick façade. It seems like we are hiding our worship and congregational life behind that wall, which was not the intent in 1960 and is not today. As part of a major renovation of the narthex, the session has approved plans that will relocate the front entrance to the actual front of the building. We will have visible double doors opening out onto E. Maple St. At the same time the narthex's ceiling will be raised, new lighting put in, a new cloakroom added, and the women's bathroom will be made fully handicap accessible. A handicap accessible ramp will also be added to the back of the church.

These are exciting changes. Physically, they will turn the narthex into a warm, welcoming space. Symbolically, the new narthex points HPC's way into the future, a future that is more open to the world around it. We're looking to be a church with an attitude, a church that is a class act, a church that goes out its open doors to serve and actively invites others to come back in through those same open doors.

There is a price tag! It will cost HPC between \$120,000 and \$140,000 to complete this renovation. The Stewardship Committee has started a pledge drive with a goal of raising at least \$60,000. The session invites every member to join in, remembering that what is at stake here is not "just" the church building. A new, inviting narthex is a step into the future. We should note that the session will continue to collect the "Pennies from Heaven" offering as before, but that offering does not take the place of pledges.

HPC TIDINGS Page 4



God plans for our fathers to play important parts in our lives. Fill in the puzzle squares with names of important fathers from the Bible. Use the clues and verse references below to help.

## **DOWN** 1. King Solomon's father, who ruled over Israel for 40 years (2 Samuel 5:4) 4. He was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac. (Genesis 22:1-2) He had 12 sons. (Genesis 35:22) 7. Samuel's father (1 Samuel 1:19-20) 9. His son was Obed. (Ruth 4:21) 10. David was the youngest of his 8 sons. (Ruth 4:17) 11 10 12 13 **ACROSS**

- 2. His 3 sons helped him build an ark. (Genesis 6:10)
- 3. His youngest son, Jacob, tricked him into giving away the birthright of his older son Esau. (Genesis 27:30)
- 5. The Father of our Lord (Ephesians 1:3)
- 7. His sons were not like Samuel. They were wicked. (1 Samuel 2:12).
- 8. David's best friend and father of Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:6)
- 11. Father of Cain, Abel and Seth (Genesis 4:25)
- 12. He was married to Mary, mother of Jesus. (Matthew 1:20-21)
- 13. Father of Jonathan, he was chosen by the people as the first king of Israel. (2 Samuel 9:6)

### A Special Treat for a

# Special Dad

Fathers work hard to take care of their families. To thank your special dad for all he does, make him a treat bag that he can enjoy while at work, in the car or at home.

#### What you need:

- gift bag, paper lunch bag, plastic container or large Ziploc® bag.
- markers or cravons
- paper (81/2" x 11") or smaller
- ribbon, stickers, photograph of your dad (optional)
- glue
- scissors
- large bowl for mixing
- spoon
- 1/4 or 1/2 measuring cup
- vour dad's favorite snacks to make a mix. For example: small pretzels, nuts, M&M's®, dried cereals (Cheerios®, Chex®, etc.), chocolate or carob chips, dried fruit (cranberries, raisins, apricots, etc.), shredded coconut. etc.

#### What to do:

- 1. Cut your paper to fit on your bag or container.
- 2. Decorate your paper with a message like: "A Special Treat for My Special Dad!"
- 3. Glue your message onto the bag or container.
- 4. Add stickers, photographs or more drawings to the container or bag.
- 5. Pour 1/4 or 1/2 cup of each snack food into a large mixing bowl.
- 6. Stir your snack mixture with a spoon, and then pour it into the bag or container.
- 7. Fold the top of the bag, or close the container. (Use a ribbon or stapler if needed.) Ask for help from an adult to make sure the snack will not fall out.
- 8. Thank your dad, and then give him this special treat and a big hug!







# OLUME 11 ISSUE 5

## D Selection

# JUNE 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				9:00–5:00 TFC Garage Sale	9:00—5:00 TFC Garage Sale Church office closed	<b>3</b> 9:00–5:00 TFC Garage Sale
9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Congregational Mtg. 11:30 TFC Mtg. TFC Ridiculous Store 3:00 pm AA	5 7:30 pm - AA / Alanon	6 6:30 pm— Congregational Care Committee	7	8 7:00 pm AYSO	9 6:00 pm Wedding Re- hearsal Church office closed	10 5:00 pm Wedding
11 SUMMER HOURS BEGIN 10:00 am Worship 3:00 pm AA	12 7:30 pm - AA/ Alanon	13	2:00 Holly Woodlands Bible Study	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 Church office closed	17
18 Graduation Sunday 10:00 am Worship TFC Ridiculous Store 11:00 am - Graduates Tea 3:00 pm AA	19 6:30 pm - Session 7:30 pm - AA/ Alanon	20	21	22 6:00 pm Optimist Club	23 Church office closed	24
25 10:00 am Worship 3:00 pm AA	<b>26</b> 7:30 pm - AA / Alanon	27 Herb leaves for Thailand	28	29	30 Church office closed	

#### **JUNE VOLUNTEERS**

Ushers: Jack and Amie Davis Lay Leader: Bob Killewald

 $\textbf{Flowers - Sign up located in kitchen:} \hspace{0.2cm} 6/25 \hspace{0.1cm} \textbf{The Lyles Family in honor of Janet's Birthday}$ 

Birthdays: 6/01 Desiree Cook 6/01 Tim Hadley 6/14 Joe Ponton 6/16 Julie Murphree 6/23 Marissa Cook

6/24 Carol Ohlmacher 6/25 Janet Lyles

HPC TIDINGS

#### **OUR LIFE TOGETHER**



PLEASE PRAY...

- for the following individuals: Don Giles, June Green, Gladys Havenstein, Laura Parker, Peggy Ranger, and all of the members of the church who are facing health problems.
- for the families of the congregation and for those who are living alone as well. Pray that we can treat each other with care and compassion. Pray for members of the church who face difficult times or decisions.
- for our church during this interim period and for Herb, the session, and our staff.

Pray for God's leading as Holly PC seeks God's leading for the life and future of our church.

- for the Pastoral Nominating Committee and each of its members as it carries out its search for our new pastor; and for the person God is providentially preparing as HPC's pastor.
- for the leaders and peoples of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Palestine. Pray for peace in those nations and in our world. And please re-

"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### TFC Garage Sale and Pop Can Drive

It is time to clean out that closet and pack up those boxes because the teens are having a garage sale to fund our mission trip. **June 1st** – **3rd** our fellowship hall will be lined with tables of goodies (junk to some) to raise money for our mission trip to West Virginia June 18 – 24. Donations can be dropped off during regular office hours Monday through Friday from 9 am – 3 pm or Sunday after church. Adult volunteers are needed and all teens participating in the mission trip are expected to work. Dates will be announced.

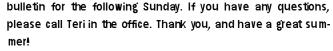
The TFC will also be **collecting pop cans and bottles** though **June 18th** to help with the mission trip.

#### Welcome To Our New Members!

HPC is happy to welcome the following members of the 2006 communicants' class into full membership in the church: Bronwyn Cook, Josh Haneline, Ben Jackson, Brian Lyles, Katie Parker, and Sarah Privette. We wish them Godspeed in their continuing journey of faith.

#### **Regular Office Hours Resume**

Beginning June 2, the office will be closed on Fridays through the summer until September 8. The office hours for the summer will be M  $\,$  -TH,  $\,$  9:00-3:00  $\,$  pm. Bulletin information should be in by Wednesdays to assure it will get in the



#### Altar Flowers

You may sign up for flowers for the sanctuary on Sundays using the chart is in the narthex. The cost of flowers is \$15. Please make checks payable to HPC and designate it for 'flowers'.

# PC (U.S.A.) launches new Web site dedicated to small churches

The site, http://www.pcusa.org/smallchurch, is intended to further the mission of the Small Church Ministry Network, a voluntary association of people throughout the church involved or interested in small church ministry. Small congregations are those with average attendance at Sunday worship of 100 or fewer. Two-thirds of PC(USA) congregations qualify for the designation. The new Web site boasts networking opportunities, leadership training and resources, congregation success stories, and information about events such as Small Church Sunday (July 9) and Wee Kirk conferences, sponsored by Presbyterians For Renewal (PFR). The new site also invites church lead-

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 6 Page 7

#### TEENS FOR CHRIST

#### **TFC June News**

Following our regularly schedule meeting in May several teens and adults visited a Labyrinth in Davisburg. Their host explained the purpose of the Labyrinth and let each individual use their time to reflect and meditate as they walked the pathway. Karen Haneline said it was very peaceful and she was able reflect on a personal issue. Experiences like this are meant to strengthen our relationship with God and give time to prayer. Overall, I heard it was a successful experience and we are looking to perhaps visit a monastery in the future.

This month will also mark our second out- ofstate mission trip. We will be traveling to West Virginia June 18-24. Several teens and adults will be doing light construction for needy families. We are sure to come home grateful for the chance to serve God through our skills as laborers. Stay tuned to hear all about it.

Blessing,

Dessalee Cook



#### **DRAMA MINISTRY**

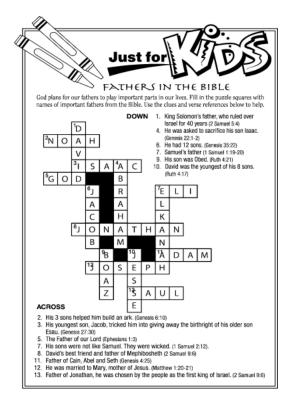
It is time to add a give it a try. You don't have to be a trained professional just have the drive to do something different. If this sounds like you, please let me know so we can get this ministry started.



Dessalee Cook

248-634-5680 • dm4cook@aol.com





#### INTERIM NOTES CONT.

... continued from page 1

There is going to be a period of training after which the PNC will prepare a "church infor mation form" (CIF) to be submitted to the denomination matching with "personal infor mation forms (PIFs), which pastors looking for churches submit. The CIF will be based partly on the congregational study that a team working with me is now preparing.

Once the CIF is completed, the search process will begin. The PNC will cull through dozens and dozens of PIFs and begin to contact prospective candidates for this pulpit. They will discard some candi-

dates quickly and will take a closer look at some others. That look will include contacting references, viewing videos of sermons, and (eventually) interviewing the most likely candidates. The best prospects may be asked to preach in a "neutral pulpit" (that is, not in their own church) so committee members can hear and see them preach in person.

Finally, the PNC will select a single candidate and invite that candidate to come to Holly PC to preach, meet the congregation, and be voted on. If received (they usually are!), the process is over, and the interim period will finally be over.

The PNC is a committee of the congregation, not the session. It will, however, present regular reports both to the congregation and to session. It's work, furthermore, is always and entire ly behind closed doors. Initially, the PNC may consult with the session regarding the session's ideas about the next pastor, and it has to submit the CIF to the session for approval. Once the PNC begins its search for a new pastor, however, its work is completely confidential. We can't ask! They can't answer!

It may not discuss its work with anyone else until it has made its selection. The whole process is complex and time consuming,

and we can't predict when the PNC will have a final candidate. We can expect that their work will probably take at least a year. It could be longer.

In the meantime, we carry on with the life of the church. And we pray. Please, please, keep the PNC in your prayers. They will make decisions that will affect the whole future of the church. We all pray that the Spirit will move in them, in the candidate they finally select, and in this church as the search process moves forward.

-Herb ■

#### ATHLETES IN ACTION

We wrote to you last month about Jamie-Lee, a sophomore on the volleyball team who recently placed her faith in Christ. Well, God has continued to work on that team, and since then four of Jaime -Lee's teammates have also accepted Christ into their lives!! One of those girls, Robyn, met either staff because she indicated an interest in playing on one of our overseas AIA volleyball tours. However, when she showed up for her appointment, Robyn told us that she heard from Jamie Lee that you could know God personally and wondered if we could tell her how to do that. (If that isn't evidence of God preparing a heart

to hear the gospel, I don't know what is!) So, as Robyn heard the gospel for the first time, she was ready to make a commitment to Christ and did just that.

We have been meeting with the volleyball girls weekly to go through follow-up bible studies with them and it has been so neat to watch them grow in their new faith. The Holy Spirit is convicting their hearts of sin that they never recognized as sin before, and they are saying they have been so much more aware of God's presence all around them.

Please pray...

...for Jamie Lee, Robyn, Margo, Faye and Mandy, new believers on the volleyball team. Pray they would be free from spiritual attack and that this summer would be one of incredible spiritual growth for them.

...for our students from UD attending AIA summer opportunities—Allie, Dee, Chad, Ben and Carly. Pray for God to work mightily in their lives.

...us as we prepare for our summer ministry assignment. Pray for Colby as he seeks God in putting together a number of talks he will give, and for Sarah as she prepares to teach

a Bible study on the books of Romans. ■





Colby and Sarah Keefer 2166 Harmony Dr., Xenia, OH 45385 (937) 374-1795

col by .keefer **@**aia.com sar ah .keefer **@**aia.com

#### **NEWS FROM JAMAS**

#### Big News!!

We have found a wonderful building to rent for Jamas! Since moving out of our little house, we have been using facilities in four churches, and Border's Books and Music for our programs. This hopping around has proved difficult and we are happy to say we have found a new home!

#### **Outreach Ministry**

Meanwhile, our acoustic cafe programs at Borders have been inter- the border with Grand Blanc. esting to say the least! We typically have a seated audience of 30- It's about 17 minutes from 40, with a number of bystanders coming and going as well. At the our home base in Holly, and last event there, while I was setting up, I was right by a table of three people recruiting an individual to join up with Wicca. It was high schools we draw from. awkward to hear the Christian faith trampled with misinformation, and bad history. It was soon time to start the music performance, and I was on first For 'some reason', all three of the first songs and introductions contradicted some of the false information, and pointed to Christ as the true savior of the world. We have thought of relocating from Borders, but it is an intellectual center in the area, and a Mecca for religious seekers, so for the time being we will stay.

consistent places to have the programs. But there is a loyal following, and the bands still love to play our venues. We get emails every day from bands wanting to play because they have heard good things about us. Our discussion times have moved to in between Your fellow servant in Christ, bands. Last Saturday we heard opinions and gave ours on topics like Heaven and the movie The Da Vinci Code. The question was asked, "Is The Da Vinci Code true?" From the crowd came a loud airborn@tir.com, www.jamas.cjb.net, 248-634-7833 and definite, 'No!" We did not need to add much to that other than PO Box 930, Fenton, MI 48430

to mention the faulty history, and faulty Church history in the movie. Please pray for searching hearts and that we can point seekers to the Way the Truth and the Life, Jesus Christ.

#### Our New Place

It's the old school house on the corner of Maple and Center Roads in Burton, right on closer to many of the other It's a fixer-upper! In exchange for a low rent, we have



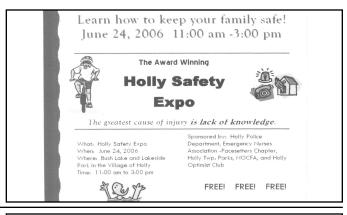
agreed to fix the building up. In the next 12 months, we will re-roof, put in a handicap bathroom, clean the basement, paint inside and out, and repair the handicap ramp.

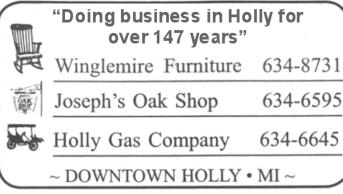
Our plan is to engage our teens and bands, skilled builders, churches and youth groups to make this a community effort. We will be having work days May 25 from 3 pm to dark, June 2 from 1 pm Our **<u>Rock Nights</u> have had lower crowds, partly from our lack of to dark, and Saturday, June 3 from noon to dark, with more to** 

Thank you all for your love, support and prayers.

Ron Moore, Jamas Outreach and Community Center Director









## HOLLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

207 E Maple St Holly MI 48442

Phone: 248-634-9494 Fax: 248-634-8595

E-mail: hollypc@sbcglobal.net

**BULK RATE** 

U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT#43

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED





"THERE IS NOT ONE BLADE OF GRASS, THERE IS NO COLOR IN THIS WORLD THAT IS NOT INTENDED TO MAKE

US REJOICE" - JOHN CALVIN

#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### Our Mission is to:

- ◆ Worship God in a faithful and joyful manner;
- ◆ Teach the good news of the Christian faith, share that faith with each other and reach out to those beyond the church;
- Be a loving family dedicated to the biblical values of peace, love, faith and justice;
- Develop a dynamic presence in our community under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

## **Holly Presbyterian Tidings**

A monthly publication of Holly Presbyterian Church

Interim Minister: Herb Swanson Clerk of Session: Jim Lyles Financial Secretary: Peggy Ranger

> Treasurer: Vicki Lyles Secretary: Teri Webner

Choir Director: Julia Belyayeva Hull

#### **Summer Office Hours:**

(June 2—Sept. 1) Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Fridays, Closed

## Our e-mail addresses:

Office: hollypc@sbcglobal.net Pastor: hpcinterim@sbcglobal.net