



HPC TIDINGS

SEPTEMBER 2006

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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

INTERIM NOTES



The search for HPC's next pastor has begun. As most of you know, in June the congregation elected a pastor nominating committee (PNC) made up of seven members of the church. The PNC has had a couple of organizational meetings, and it is now beginning to meet regularly to prepare for the actual search process. We have worked together as an "interim church" and interim pastor for nearly one-

and-a-half years to reach this point. More than ever, HPC's future begins now!

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect with HPC's members and friends on **why interim pastors cannot be considered as candidates for the pulpit and must move on**. Runee and I assure you that our leaving, which will probably take place in the summer of 2007, does not mean that we've been unhappy here in Holly or can't wait to get

away. We have felt warmly received and cared for by the good folks at Holly PC and are excited by what has happened in the past 18 months, what will happen in the next year, and by your future. We believe God has good things in store for you. It is important, however, to understand that we have a different future in store for us. We remain very attached to our home in Chiang Mai and do not feel

Continued on page 8...

WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

For a couple of years now HPC has not used the Common Lectionary of Bible passages for worship and preaching, which is widely used in Presbyterian Churches. This fall we are returning to the lectionary. It will provide themes for our worship and topics for the sermons as well as resources for actually carrying out worship. For those of you who "do" the Web, the full listing of lectionary passages can be found at www.divinity.library.vanderbilt.edu/lectionary.

For September, we will be using the following passages to set the themes for our worship:

September 3rd - Psalm 50:7-15 and James 1:19-27. True faith and true worship requires us to respond actively to God's grace.

September 10th - Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 and James 2:1-10. Christians are to honor other irrespective of their social standing, income, or any other such measures.

September 17th - Psalm 19:7-14 and James 3:1-12. Warnings against the dangers of the tongue.

September 24th - Proverbs 31:10-31 and James 3:13-18. The measure of true wisdom.

The first Sunday in September is Communion Sunday. The second Sunday will be "Welcome Back" Sunday when the church's fall activities get into full swing. The third Sunday will be Contemporary Worship Sunday.

NEWS AND UPDATES

Adult Sunday School Class

Sunday school starts again on September 10th, and the Sunday school staff has an exciting program designed for the fall, including a two-month class on the "Church in Asia," which Herb will lead. The class will look especially at the experience of the church in Thailand, including Runee and Herb's home church. Sunday school starts at 9:00 am. All are invited, the young and the more young!

New Members' Class

Several of those who regularly attend worship at Holly PC have indicated that they would like to join the church. If you are interested in becoming a member or know of someone who is, please let Herb know. New member classes will be held Sunday mornings at 9:00 am in the sanctuary for the four Sundays of November.

Assembly in Brief 2006 now available

A printed summary of the highlights of General Assembly has been produced by the PC(USA). This 16-page booklet will fit in Sunday worship bulletins and can be ordered in print form or downloaded from www.pcusa.org/ga217. (You have to go to the bottom of the webpage to find the booklet).

Fall Evening Program Series

This fall, Holly PC will offer three special evening programs for the benefit of the church and community. We'd like to ask all members and friends of the church to get the word out. We'd like to fill the church for all three events!

Sunday evening, October 15th, 8:00 pm, the Rev. Dr. Philip J. Hughes, Director of the Christian Research Association, Melbourne, Australia, will deliver a presentation on the subject "The Spirit of Gen Y: Youth & Spirituality in America & Australia." Dr. Hughes, an internationally recognized figure in church research, is engaged in two major studies of youth and religion and currently writing a book on the subject. He will share with us his understanding of how international trends relate to youth spirituality in the United States.

Sunday evening, November 12th, 8:00 pm, Herb (the Rev. Dr. Herbert R. Swanson, to be formal about it) will draw on his 25 years' experience in Southeast Asia to deliver a presentation on "Asian Spirituality and American Faiths." He will discuss what we can learn from Asian views of the spiritual life.

Sunday evening, December 3rd, 7:00 pm, Holly PC will host the Fenton High School Ambassadors for an evening of Christmas music and carols. The Ambassadors are a nationally known choral group, and who will present a program of Christmas music and then join with the audience in singing your favorite Christmas carols. This will be a fun evening and an exciting way to kick off the Advent season.

There's something here for everyone. Please, help us to let others know about the great things happening this fall at HPC.

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! ■

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**From the Congregational Care Committee...****Reunion with a Cause**

Thank you to all who participated in the cancer fundraiser on August 11, with special thanks to Roberta & Jim Single and Peggy Ranger for organizing and collecting money. The church raised approximately \$1,100.

Carrie Nation Parade - September 9

Keeping with tradition, we will again be hosting our refreshment stand in front of the church during the parade. We greatly need cookie donations! Please drop them off at the church kitchen during regular office hours during the week or the day of the parade. Thank you!

Mary Kay Fundraiser

Ellen Paulsen will be coordinating Mary Kay parties from 10:00 am - 12 noon on September 16 & 23, and also October 14, 21 and 28. Look for your invitation in the mail! Profits will be used for the building renovation fund!!

The next Congregational Care Committee meeting will be held on September 7 at 6:30 pm.

DON'T FORGET our **Fall Kickoff** **Church Potluck**

September 10th marks the beginning of the Sunday School year, so let's kick it off by sharing a meal together right after worship at 11:30. Please bring a dish to pass. Table service will be provided.



September 10

TEENS FOR CHRIST

Greetings!

The days of summer might be coming to an end but a new school year is ready to take off again. With it comes so many activities and commitments our youth have; it makes my mind spin with the thoughts of how full their lives are. It is great that we have a good youth group that continues to be a part of our church and it's life. For several this will be their last year in high school and they will move on to bigger and better things. I only pray that they will stay committed to a Christian life and they will be witnesses to the love of God and the promise of a better life through him. Do take the time to praise your child for what they have grown up to be because we have some awesome youth in our church!

With that said I will move into what we have done since June and our fall line-up. In August we met at Jordan Howe's home for a swimming party and float building session. We volunteered to build the float for the Carry Nation Parade on September 9th at 10 a.m. We will be asking for youth to ride or walk with the float so check your calendars. Also, the Howes provided us with some great food and a great way to end our summer. We all thank you!

July found us camping at Covenant Hills in Otisville. It was an extremely hot weekend but thanks to Randy Cook and Rod Haneline, we were blessed with a retrieve in their air conditioned houses on wheels. Us "tent people" truly appreciated it if we forgot to say so. Nevertheless, we had a great time and hope to do it again soon.

Looking to the future, we will be again participating in the Car Show our church will be sponsoring. The date is September 30th here in our parking lot. We will be selling hot-dogs to fund our mission work. So pray the day will be beautiful for a large turnout of participants and spectators. Also, I will be asking for volunteers so check your calendars to see if that day is available.

Here's to a great school year!

God Bless Everyone,

Dessalee Cook



SEPTEMBER 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Office closed	2
3 10:00 am Worship 3:00 pm AA	4 Labor Day Office closed 7:30 pm - AA/ Alanon	5 5:30 Kidz Thea- tre Kompany (KTK) 7:00 Special Session	6	7 6:30 pm— Congregational Care Committee	8 9:00—3:00 Friday office hours resume 5:30 KTK	9 Carry Nation Re- freshments
10 Kick Off Sunday 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Potluck Meal 3:00 pm AA	11 7:30 pm - AA/ Alanon	12 5:30 KTK 6:30 Advent Planning	13 2:00 Holly Wood- lands Bible Study	14 7:00 pm AYSO	15 Newsletter Dead- line 5:30 KTK	16 10a—12n Mary Kay Fundraiser
17 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 TFC Mtg. 3:00 pm AA	18 7:30 pm - AA/ Alanon	19 5:30 KTK 7:00 pm Session	20	21	22 5:30 KTK	23 10a—12 n Mary Kay Fundraiser
24 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 3:00 pm AA	25 7:30 pm - AA/ Alanon	26 5:30 KTK	27	28 6:00 pm Optimist Club	29 5:30 KTK	30 Auto Show

September VOLUNTEERS

Ushers: TBD **Lay Leaders:** The Lyles Family

Flowers - Sign up located in kitchen: 9/10 The Killewald's in honor of Bob's Birthday

Birthdays: 9/01 Kendra Bradshaw 9/04 Rod Haneline 9/12 Bob Killewald 9/19 Jesse Hedin
 9/22 Gladys Havenstein 9/24 Virginia Iaquinta 9/25 Bronwyn Cook 9/26 Payte Hedin



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.
- 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-

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

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

Martin Luther King, Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

School Supplies Drive

We are currently collecting school supplies to donate to area schools. Please see the board posted in the fellowship Hall for a listing of supplies need. For more information, contact Lyndsey Perry.



Herb's Office Hours

Herb's office hours are 9:00 a.m. to Noon, Monday thru Thursday. His home phone is **810-714-3290**. You can also reach Herb through e-mail at

hpcinterim@sbcglobal.net

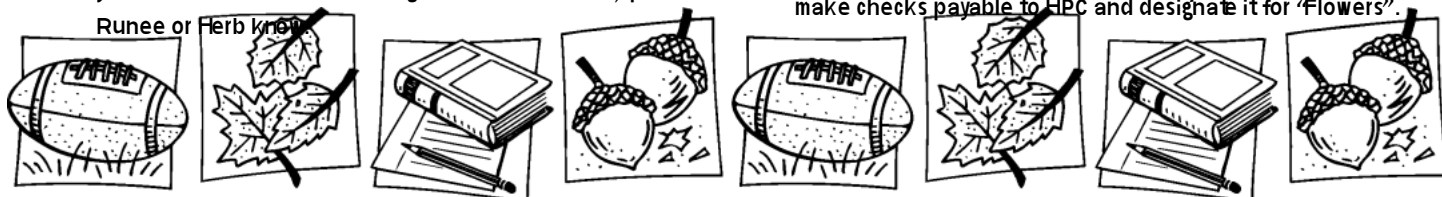
The Choir



The choir will resume its regularly scheduled practices, after worship, on the 17th. If you are interested in taking part in the choir, this will be a good time to begin.

Hand Chime Choir

We will "resurrect" the hand chime choir this fall, looking to Advent. There will be a brief organizational meeting for those interested after worship on **Sunday, September 17th**. If you cannot make that meeting and are interested, please let Runee or Herb know.



Office Hours Resume



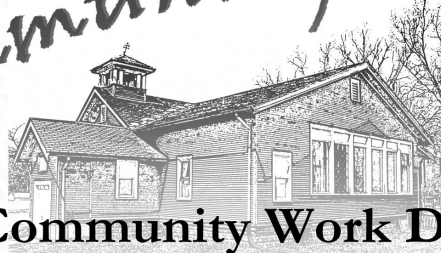
Beginning September 5th, the office will resume regular office hours, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. The office will be open Friday, September 8th. Bulletin information should be in by Thursday mornings to assure it will get in the bulletin for the following Sunday. **Note: The office will be closed Monday, September 4th, for Labor Day.** If you have any questions, please call Teri in the office.

Altar Flowers

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

JAMAS

Jamas Community Center



Community Work Day! **Saturday, 9/9 from 10 to 8** **Work to do: Scraping and Painting,** **roof repair, yard work**

Jamas started as an outreach ministry of Holly Presbyterian, and is now moving into a wonderful "new" fixerupper building!

From July 2005 to August 2006, we had over 2300 people at our rock and acoustic nights. We outgrew our little house, and found a bigger place with a lower rent!

We need helpers, and we need extra funds as we get this new start. Skilled and Unskilled helpers are welcome. Donations for paint and major renovation are tax deductible (Holly Pres), and much appreciated!

Purpose of Jamas:

To provide positive, high quality activities and programs for the community, including Christian activities and programs.

Activities for All Ages:

~Music Programs- Concerts, Special Events, Rock and Acoustic Nights
All Family Shows, Game Nights, Jazz, Dixieland, Comedy,
and other special interest programs.

~Art Shows and Fairs ~Childrens Programs

Thank you for your continued love and prayers!

In Christ,

ron moore airborn@tir.com PO Box 930 Fenton, MI 48430

Jamas Community Center, 3501 E. Maple, Burton, MI ~ est. 2002 ~ Director: Ron Moore 810-691-6191

INTERIM NOTES CONT.

...continued from page 1

that we should make any long-term commitments here in the U.S.A, which means that we won't be considering a regular pastorate anywhere.

As a pastor, furthermore, my talents are those of a sprinter rather than a long-distance runner. My leadership style and personality are best suited for doing the things I've done with HPC, namely helping churches to re-evaluate their situation and take the first steps towards the future. Other pastors are better able to continue the journey from that point on. In addition, the *Book of Order* (constitution) of the Presbyterian Church (USA) does not permit churches to call their interim pastor as the next regularly installed pastor. Lake Huron

Presbytery adheres strictly to this policy.

There is also an ethical issue involved. It is the usual case for interim pastors to "take over" when a church is facing an uncertain future. The former pastor is gone, and there is the grief of loss as well as the anxiety of having to adjust to a new pastor. Even for those who feel energized by a change of pastors, there is uncertainty. If the interim minister is at all capable, church members often feel relief, gratitude, new hope, and an understandable desire to "keep the interim." "Why," they ask, "should we go shopping when we already have what we want?" Those involved in interim ministry have come to realize that it is not ethical for interim pastors to take

advantage of the vulnerable situation of the church they serve by becoming the regular pastor. All too often the interim, who did a good job in the short-term, is not the best choice for the long haul and problems later develop.

The process of calling a new pastor itself, furthermore, is an important one. It offers the opportunity for a church to think about its future and to weigh in the balance exactly what it wants in its pastoral leadership. HPC has not engaged in this highly important exercise for nearly 20 years. It is time it does so.

Runee and I are looking forward to our remaining months with HPC, but in those months both you and we will be more

and more thinking about the future beyond this interim period at HPC. That is natural and necessary. We appreciate expressions by many of you that you would like to have us remain at HPC, but I trust that you appreciate the reasons why that cannot be.

Interim pastoral ministry is like building an elaborate sand castle. Building the sand castle takes effort. It is fun (most of the time!). But it is also only for the moment. Within hours the waves will wash it away. Part of the beauty of a sand castle is in the very fact that it exists for only a short time. It is no less precious or important because it doesn't last for years and years.

Herb ■

ATHLETES IN ACTION

It's been fun to have a little bit more time to spend with our kids—we are really in a fun stage of life with them. Mikayla is two and a half and is an absolute doll. She has the sweetest personality and loves life. "Why" is her favorite word and I feel like I answer that question at least one hundred times a day! But, it has been fun to see her curiosity grow and watch her learn new things. She adores her brother, Jackson, who is now almost nine months old. I never anticipated how well they would play together wres-

tlng and laughing. Jackson has finally reached the milestone of sitting up, but has yet to decide he wants to move! We put him on his belly to play and if he can't reach a toy, he just lays there like a slug! But, I'm confident he will move one day :) They are such a blessing in our lives.

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 continue 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 teaches a Bible study on the books of Romans. ■



Colby and Sarah Keefer
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Xenia, OH 45385
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HAPPENINGS



On behalf of the president of Westminster College, R. Thomas Williamson, they are inviting us to make a difference in one young person's life in our congregation by nominating them for the Young Presbyterian Scholars Program at Westminster College. This year, the scholarship has increased to \$12,000 - which means \$48,000 over the student's four years there. Westminster College (PA) has chosen to embrace its Presbyterian heritage by offering the Young Presbyterian Scholarship (YPS) to students who are PC(USA) members and hold a 3.5 cumulative high school grade point average. The current YPS scholarship nominations are intended for the 06-07 high school seniors who will join them for four years. For more information about Westminster College and the YPS Program, please contact Teri in the office.



103 BROAD STREET • LINDEN, MI 48451 • 810.735.7888 •

Fine dining that's affordable

The BroadStreet Grille in Linden has invited the congregation of Holly Presbyterian Church to join them for their "Sunday Style Dinners" now held on Sundays. The weekly dinners consist of broasted or roasted chicken, soup, assorted salads, breads and accompaniments all served family style for \$12.95. You will receive a free dessert if you tell the service staff that you heard about them from Holly Presbyterian Church.

Presbyterian Women LHP Fall Gathering

The 2006 Celebration of Ordained Women, both Deacons and Ministers of Word and Sacrament will be held on October 7th at First Presbyterian Church in Mt. Pleasant. Anyone interested in attending may obtain an registration form from Teri in the office. Registration is due Sept. 20th.

Attention all youth performers...

Kidz Theatre Kompany

Will be auditioning for their upcoming fall production of

"Metaphasia"

This is a radically updated retelling of "The Twelve Dancing Princesses" by P. Collette, G. Fritzen and R. Wright

KTK will be casting for males, females, chorus and technical for ages K-12

Auditions:

6 PM on Tuesday Sept. 5th and Friday Sept. 8th at

Holly Presbyterian Church (HPC) - 207 E Maple, Holly

Call backs:

6 PM Tuesday September 12th at **HPC**

Rehearsals:

will be scheduled 6 PM on Tuesday and Fridays @ **HPC** and Thursday @ **Tyrone Presbyterian Church (TPC) - 141 Hartland Rd, Fenton**

Parents Meeting and First Practice:

Fri. Sept. 15th 6 PM @ **HPC**

Show dates and locations:

to be determined Mid November

Keep an eye on the Tri-County Times or KTK website for updates: www.kidztheatrekompany.org

Please call Katie Carr @ 810.735.5313 with questions.

"Doing business in Holly for over 147 years"



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Holly Gas Company 634-6645

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**"GOD TOLERATES EVEN OUR STAMMERING, AND PARDONS OUR IGNORANCE WHENEVER SOMETHING INADVERTENTLY
ESCAPES US - AS, INDEED, WITHOUT THIS MERCY THERE WOULD BE NO FREEDOM TO PRAY." - 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