



Holly Presbyterian Church

HPC Tidings

Believe. It's what we do.



March 2010

From The Seminarian's Desk

By Cassie Todd

The last time I wrote, I was just beginning my trip in Jamaica and experiencing the culture but there were some moments and experiences there that really touched me that I would like to share with you.

One of these experiences was with St. Andrew's settlement in Majesty Gardens, one of the poorest places in Kingston, Jamaica. As we walked down the street we had to be careful not to step in the sewage that drained through the area. The houses were made out of tin roofing, looking like the siding on railroad cars. Two young children were sitting in a small two-foot box during a weekday because they couldn't afford to go to the school, which only costs \$17 USD to send a kid to preschool for a year. We walked by a home on the corner belonging to one of the neighborhood women, Ms. Peggy. Ms. Peggy chooses to live there, because she was given a small gift to help her business of snack sales grow and it grew where she doesn't have to stay, but she stays and gives back to the community when she can and never turns a kid away if they don't have money to pay. We ask her why she stayed and gave back to the community, she replied, "I was given a gift, so I must give back." We saw God that day. We saw Christ's passion for the people of the world.

There were other experiences like this, including visiting a high security prison that shook to the core Matthew 25:36c, "I was in prison and you visited me," and I could go on and on about the trip, but I want to let you know that God is alive and at work across the world, even in Majesty Gardens, even in Jamaica's High Security prison. There is no place God won't go for you, and there is no place that God is not already there at work for the Kingdom. This has been one of the most valuable experiences that I have had in

March Calendar

- Mar. 3 Soup Supper 6:30pm
Lenten Study 7:00pm
- Mar. 7 TFC Sun School 9:15am
Sun School 9:30am
Worship with Communion 10:30am
- Mar. 10 Soup Supper 6:30pm
Lenten Study 7:00pm
AYSO
- Mar. 14 TFC Sun School 9:15am
Sun School 9:30am
Worship 10:30am
- Mar. 15 Session Meeting 7:00pm
Newsletter Deadline
- Mar. 17 Soup Supper 6:30pm
Lenten Study 7:00pm
- Mar. 21 TFC Sun School 9:15am
Sun School 9:30am
Contemporary Worship 10:30am
- Mar. 24 Soup Supper 6:30pm
Lenten Study 7:00pm
- Mar. 28 TFC Sun School 9:15am
Sun School 9:30am
Palm Sunday Worship 10:30am

Check out our [online calendar](#).

Thank You

Teens for Christ would like to thank Holly Little Caesars for their recent donation of Breadstix for our spaghetti luncheon fundraiser. All who stayed were treated to a lovely meal and were able to enjoy relaxed fellowship with each other while supporting the teens. A total of \$411.00 was raised to fund their mission trip this summer. A special "thank you" to Ardath Reagan for her generous donation. Please consider supporting our Holly Little Caesars when your pizza urge arises.

my seminary career and am so grateful that I have this going forward in my ministry.

St. Andrew's settlement is a settlement in MajestyGardens that gives the community a preschool, health clinic, chapel, and a community center. It is run by the St. Andrew Parish Church of the Anglican Church of Jamaica. If you would like to make a donation to the settlement you can send a check to the Executive Director Jos A. Chambers (he showed us around the area- he is a really good man of God and well respected by the community) the address is as follows:

Jos. A. Chambers
St. Andrew Settlement
P.O. Box 152
MajestyGardens
Kingston 11
Jamaica

Pastors' Corner

Lent: A Time of Forgiveness and Restoration

The season of Lent began with a service of forgiveness and grace on Ash Wednesday as we gathered in the sanctuary for a time of worship. Lent focuses on a journey in which one realizes the complete gift of Jesus Christ for others. Lent is a journey, for both the church and individuals, of self-examination, of penitence for sins and mistakes against God and humankind, and for preparation for restoration. It is a journey that requires facing the cross. As the season approaches its climax, it is remembered that Jesus was determined to complete his mission and that he suffered greatly. When Jesus dies on the cross, Jesus exhibits the complete union of himself with that central characteristic of God, unqualified love.

To Easter there are no shorter routes. One passes through and remembers that the Last Supper and Crucifixion precede the victory of Easter.

The first word in Jesus' ministry was the word repent. (Matthew 4:17) Repent means not only to confess and be sorry for our sins but also, and more importantly, to turn around. Repentance means to change directions, have a new way of thinking and living, lead a new life. So as in the words given on Ash Wednesday, "The old is gone, the new has come."

We believe for all of us that these words to change, to turn around are so very difficult. Maybe that is part of the reason why we do not much like the 40 days of Lent. These days bring challenges to take our relationship with God and each other more seriously; to love our neighbors more dearly; and to share this love more frequently.

God Bless,
Karen Haneline

A Prayer for this Lenten Season

Blessed are You, Our God, the all-holy one, who gives us life and all things. In this holy season, help us to turn our minds and hearts back to You. Lead us into sincere repentance and renew our lives with Your grace. May our worship and prayer and penitence be sustained through these forty days of Lent. Bring us refreshed and renewed to the celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter. We ask this and pray this in the strong name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

Our Life Together

Please pray...

...for the following individuals: Donna Miller, Joyce Walters, Joe & Bev Ponton, Jerry Studer, Peggy Ranger, Randy & Karen Cullen, Beth Foss, Pat Frank, Ardath Regan, Harriet Striggow, Alice Horak, Cristy Banks 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 Session as they continuously seek God's leading for the life and future of our church....for the leaders and peoples of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Palestine. Pray for peace in those nations and in our world. And please remember the men & women in our armed services in your prayers.

Office Hours

Regular office hours are Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9am-3pm. Pastors Ann and Bill Robertson's hours are on Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30 - 8:30 pm. To get up-to-date information on weekly office hours, refer to our [website](#) under "Church News." or contact the church at 248-634-9494.

Our Missionaries

Please pray for our missionaries. Up to date

Ann, in her sermon on February 14th gave all of us at Holly Presbyterian Church this assignment. We believe it would be a great challenge for us, each and all, to keep each week during Lent. Go beyond your comfort zone if necessary and visit a drug rehabilitation center, a rescue mission, a hospital, a cancer patient, a nursing home, a jail, a shut-in, a teenager who does not go to church, a person of another race. You can think of others we are sure!!

If appropriate, take a small gift, cookies, a magazine, flowers. Don't do all the talking; be there to listen. And most of all enjoy these times knowing that you are fulfilling Jesus' commandment to "love."

"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if any has a complaint against another, forgive each other. ...Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

-*Colossians 3:12-14*

Blessings and Peace, Revs. Ann and Bill

information on them can be found on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall:

Allen and Deedee lobst
Maestro Millan Picazo
50 4-D 3-F
11203 Algeciras
Cadiz SPAIN
allen_deedee@yahoo.com

Colby and Sarah Keefer
4695 Sycamore Dr
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Colby.Keefer@athletesinaction.org
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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.
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