



# Holly Presbyterian Church

*Believe. It's what we do.*



March 1, 2011

## From the Seminarian's Desk

Hello Church Family!

It has been some time since I have been able to write and I wanted to catch everyone up on where I am in life. I have begun my last semester at Columbia Theological Seminary and am anticipating my graduation on May 14. After 20+ years of school, I hope to enter into a new concept of life which is foreign to me, full time work.

Several of my friends feel the same anxiety I do: where am I going to get a job, what kind of jobs will be available to us who are straight out of seminary, and where will I live?

These feelings are heightened by many of the students

who have kids here, who wonder how they will provide for their children.

Having my husband away causes this anxiety for me to go up, also. All I want is for him to come home, yet having to make life decisions via text messages and sometimes choppy conversations on Skype, is something we have to do.

We have received good news, that at the end of April he should be coming home- yet at the end of May, I need new housing and a new job!

So I ask for prayers, not just for me, but for all of my fellow students who are

graduating. Pray for the communities of faith to open their hearts to us, and well frankly job opportunities, and pray for our discernment in finding these communities.

Thank you for all of your continued support,  
Cassie



## PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember those who are in need of prayer: Our shut ins. Prayers for comfort & healing; Ardath Regan, Mandy Banks, & Margaret Rainey

For the members of our church who are facing health problems or loss;

For the families of our congregation and for those who are living alone. Pray that we can treat each other with care and compassion;

For members of our church who are facing 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. Please pray for peace in those nations and in our world;

For the men and women in our armed services and their families.

And for our country and leaders.

Please pray for Marionette Kubicz, as she has lost her home and her beloved pets in a house fire on January 26. She is currently staying with Dan and Barb Goodearl in Traverse City. A special donation account has been set up for Marionette should you want to contribute:

Huntington Bank

Att: Jan O'Brien  
PO Box 1220  
Traverse City,  
MI 49685

Please make checks payable to Barbara M. Goodearl, but specify Account 8585. Jan O'Brien will make sure all funds will go into Marionette's special account.

## The Pastor's Corner

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Psalm 51:10**  
Dear Friends,

As I write this for the March newsletter, I'm still in Parsons, Kansas. Yet I am ever aware that by the time you read this, we will be in Holly with you, residents of Michigan! What a wonderful and interesting time this is for all of us.

March is a very big month. Not only will I begin serving as your pastor but we will also begin the season of Lent, starting with Ash Wednesday on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The Lenten Season is a meaningful one for us as we take the time to reflect on where we are in our spiritual journey. Are there areas in our lives where we need to get back on track, to get closer to God? Are there things we should examine in our lives and perhaps ask for forgiveness, to make right with another person, or with God?

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## The Pastor's Corner continued

Many Christians have traditionally given up something for the 40 days of Lent – a fast of some sort. Some people give up eating meat or drinking anything but water, or will fast one day a week with only drinking liquids. The purpose of a fast is not to deprive ourselves just to see how long we can make it. The only reason for a fast of any kind is to increase our dependency on God – for strength, for help, for just knowing God's presence more and more.

On the other hand, some people choose to add something, instead of omitting something in their lives. They commit to more prayer time, to a time for reflection and quiet time with God. They might decide to keep a prayer journal or to write their

thoughts down after reading Scripture and reflecting. Some people make the decision to volunteer in a homeless shelter or a food pantry, or some place where they can help make a difference in the lives of someone who is in need.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with the imposition of the ashes made with the sign of the cross on the forehead. To me, the ashes represent my willingness to die again to my self, to give up that part of me that wants to be "me first!" and to walk the journey of Lent with my brothers and sisters in Christ. It is a physical symbol that reminds me I am going to take more time to let the Holy Spirit deal with my spirit, in order to grow.

Fred and I are looking forward to walking the Lenten journey with you. The study we will be doing together – "24 Hours that Changed the World" is very interesting and meaningful. I pray you will enjoy the Lenten journey as we reflect on the last hours of Jesus' life, and also get to know one another.

Together, we will look forward to a glorious Easter!

Peace and Grace!

*Sharlyn*

## Congregational Care Committee: Welcome Pastor Sharlyn Gates to Holly!



**there will be a potluck meal after the service on March 6 to WELCOME Pastor Gates and her husband, Fred**

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex for food.

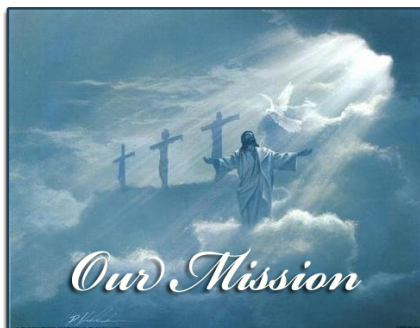
**Let's all join in on March 6 to WELCOME Pastor Gates and her husband Fred**

Also remember to bring your own table service (plates and silverware).

That will be Sharlyn's first Sunday as our new pastor, so let's give her our **BEST HPCWELCOME!!!** So mark your calendar for **Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>! Yum!!!!!!**

*If you have any questions, please contact either Roberta Single or Kay Vander Kuy.*

## The Annual Winter Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 13th.

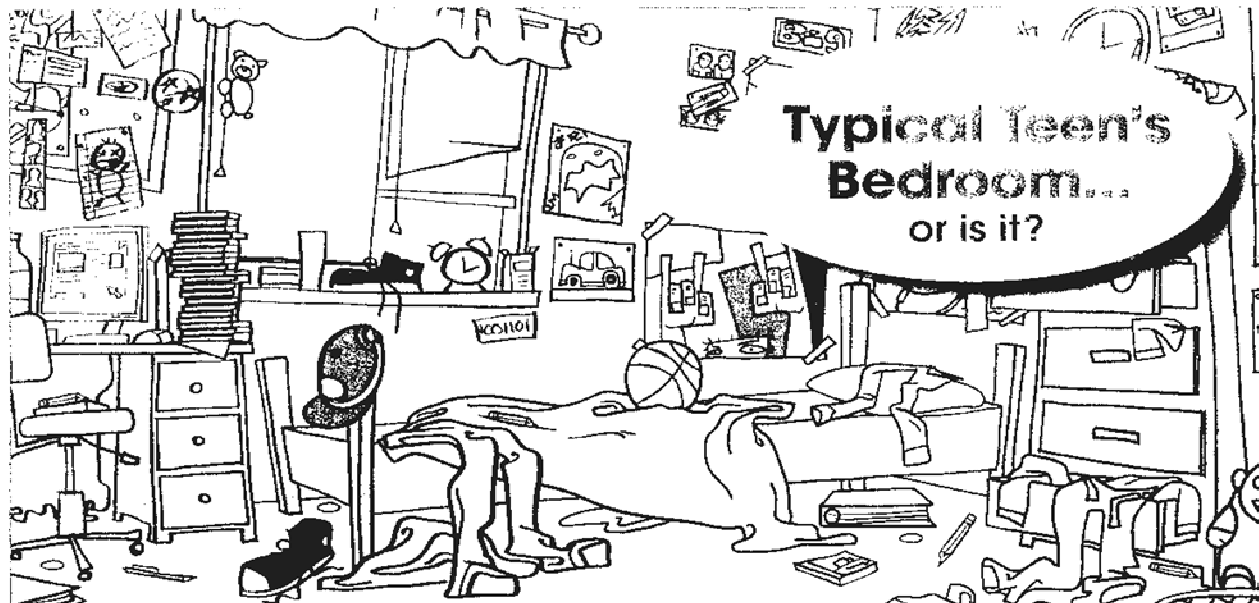


*Our Mission* At Holly Presbyterian:

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

The annual winter congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, March 13, in the sanctuary immediately following worship service. We will be going through the Annual Report, which will be available in the Narthex by March 6th.

Parent's, or Grandparents of teens, or tweens are invited to this very informative event on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at the Karl Richer Campus, this event is sponsored by the Holly Youth Coalition. Please make every effort to attend. Be informed, and aware.



## **DRUGS 101: What Parents Want to Know**

**March 1, 2011  
6:30 – 8:30pm**

**An informative and educational program for adults to learn about the signs, symptoms and current trends of teen drug use.**

*A highlight of this program is a mock teenager's bedroom set-up for adults to observe and attempt to identify the obvious and not-so-obvious drug related paraphernalia.*

**Parents, Grandparents, Guardians, Coaches, Teachers,  
Administrators and others participating gain:**

Facts about trends in teen drug use   ■   Tools to identify potential teen drug use  
Skills to engage kids in conversations

**Karl Richer Camus**  
920 East Baird Street, Holly

**FREE**

*Sponsored by Holly Area Community Coalition*

**Register: 248-328-3135**

**OR**

**ADULTS ONLY**

**Register online at [stjoeshealth.org/classes](http://stjoeshealth.org/classes).**

**Walk-ins accepted. For more information, call 734-398-7518**

**SAINT  
JOSEPH  
MERCY**  
HEALTH SYSTEM  
A Member of Trinity Health

## Shop Local and share:

### Community Share Points from VG's



VG's has launched a new program called "VG's Yes Rewards", which began 1/9/11. This will give every customer the opportunity to earn free items, receive special discounts and exclusive offers, simply by shopping in their stores. It is easy to do. Just sign up at your favorite VG's store or go on-line to [myyesrewards.com](http://myyesrewards.com). Once signed up, you will receive a special VG's Yes Rewards card to use each time you shop. Your card will help you to start earning points. In addition, when you provide your email address you'll earn

extra bonus points and other exclusive offers delivered directly into your inbox.

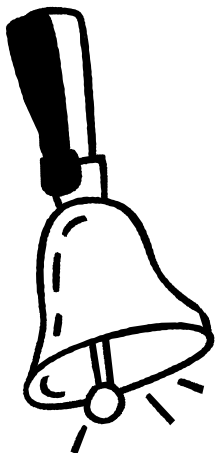
**VG's** Community Share will become a part of this new program. As a result, the way in which non-profit groups and organizations earn points for VG's Community Share will change. Beginning January 9, **VG's will require all customers to use their VG's Yes Rewards card** to earn community share points for their favorite non-profit organization. If you don't use your card, you won't receive points.

## Food Pantry Needs your help.

**ALERT: The food needs of people in our community is still growing.** We are continuing to take food to the food pantry at Holly First Baptist Church. Please bring in

your canned and boxed goods to the Narthex each week.

**"In the last year the Food Pantry has helped 620 Families, with 825 children," Rev. Ed. Pedley**



## Bell Choir for ..... Palm Sunday, April 17

We are getting organized for another bell choir performance -

**Mark your calendar for PRACTICES, after services on Sunday's**

for Palm Sunday, April 17. **Do not forget that practices will be after church on Sundays, please watch the bulletin or contact Rob Privette,**



# 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Huron Presby- tery Meeting	2	3  AYSO—7:00 pm	4 World Day of Prayer  Office is closed	5
6  1030-11:30  <u>Communion</u>  (Child care provided)  Pastor Gate's Pot- luck immediately following service— fellowship hall.	7  AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	8	9 Ash Wednesday  7:00 Lenten Bible Study w/ pastor Gates.	10  AYSO—7:00 pm	11  Office is closed	12
13 Daylight Savings Time Begins! Spring Forward!  1030-11:30 <u>Worship</u> <u>Annual Meeting</u> 11:30	14  AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	15  Newsletter Arti- cles Due in Of- fice.	16	17 St. Patrick's Day  7:00 Lenten Bible Study w/ pastor Gates.	18  Office is closed	19
20  10:30-11:30 <u>Contemporary</u> <u>Worship</u>	21 Session Meet- ing @ 7:00 pm  AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	22	23	24  7:00 Lenten Bible Study w/ pastor Gates.	25  Office is closed	26 Quilt Ex- hibit @ Hadley House Museum 10: 00 am—5:00 pm
27  1030-11:30 <u>Worship Service:</u>	28  AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	29	30	31  7:00 Lenten Bible Study w/ pastor Gates.		



## Holly Presbyterian Church

Holly Presbyterian Church  
207 E Maple St  
Holly MI 48442

Phone: 248-634-9494

Fax: 248-634-8595

E-mail: [office@hollypc.org](mailto:office@hollypc.org)



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

We're on the web.  
[www.hollypc.org](http://www.hollypc.org)

There is still time to register!

# 24 Hours

## That Changed the World

**Walk with Jesus on his final day.  
Sit beside him at the Last Supper.  
Pray with him in Gethsemane.  
Follow him to the Cross.  
Desert him. Deny him.  
Experience the Resurrection.**

Holly Presbyterian Church is excited to offer a seven-week study you won't want to miss: "24 Hours That Changed the World." In the study, Adam Hamilton will guide you through the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. The study is designed to help you experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a way you never have before.

The study, led by Rev. Sharlyn Gates, will be held in the church fellowship hall beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011. 7:00pm. The rest of the sessions, 2-7, will be held on Thursday evenings [from March 17 through Maundy Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>] at 7:00 pm.

A sign up sheet is available in the narthex. A forty two day devotional book is encouraged at a cost of \$8.00 but is optional. Please sign up by February 20<sup>th</sup> so supplies can be ordered in time for the study. If you have any questions please see **Christine Cook** or call her at **248-887-6647**.

## Fall Auction!

Yes, as I sit here in the office, and gaze out the window, it is very hard to imagine planning for a Fall Auc-



tion & fund raiser! There is still snow on the ground! Lent is still-whoops guess Lent isn't that far away.. Only two weeks! Then it will be Easter and Pastor Sharlyn hasn't laid her head down in her new home yet!

So talking about something that will happen in the Fall seems a bit far fetched. However, the whole idea is to **"Plan ahead"** to make this a very successful and profitable endeavor for the church, and that is what is taking place now. The date hasn't been set yet, but if your crafty... and have items you would like to donate for our auction, please gather them together, so that the planning com-

mittee will have an idea as to what they will have to offer. Also we will be accepting items from distributors, such as Avon, Tupperware, Simply Tasteful, etc. If you are a distributor, and would care to donate please make sure you contact Donna Miller with your items.