

February 2012

Issue: 2



Pastor's Reflections

February 2012

Ordinary Time ...

Here we are in Ordinary Time. The Advent/Christmas Season is over. Epiphany is past. Lent hasn't started yet. It's just that in-between time that the liturgical calendar calls "Ordinary Time." No high celebrations and feasts, no real special worship celebrations or Bible Studies focused on a particular time of year. Just ordinary time.

I am thankful for Ordinary Time. Of course, I love our special seasons and celebrations, but without Ordinary Time, they would lose some of their beauty and excitement, I believe.

Ordinary time is a time to take a breather; to get rested and ready for the next big thing. It is a time for the regular stuff of everyday life to happen: babies are born, kids go to school, people get jobs or sometimes, unfortunately, they lose jobs; people get sick and have surgery; some people pass on from this life to the eternal one. We faithfully go to church and pray and sing; we baptize our babies, we celebrate the Lord's Supper. We breathe, we sleep, we rise, we cry and laugh. We live. Ordinary time.

Have you noticed that the liturgical colors in the sanctuary during Ordinary Time are green? Green to symbolize growth. Really, it is in the ordinary times of our lives that we grow the most. We grow in our faith as we struggle with an illness, with a loss, with a joy. We grow as we do the regular stuff of life - like pray and worship and fellowship together. Green is for growth. Ordinary time takes up most of the time on the Christian calendar.

In This Issue

[Pastor's Reflections](#)

[2012 Per Capita](#)

[Congregational Meeting](#)

[Lenten Activities](#)

The Baby Pantry is Growing!



In the Beginning will now be open on the second and fourth Fridays of each month, in addition to the third Saturday. Thank you to the people who have come forward to fill this need in the ministry.

February Dates & Times

Friday, Feb 10th
10:00am - 12:00pm

Saturday, Feb 18th
10:00am - 2:00pm

Friday, Feb 24th
10:00am - 12:00pm

Digging Deeper Study

And it takes up most of the time in our ordinary lives as well.

Speaking of growth, we have a wonderful thing to celebrate! This past Saturday I met with two young couples who have a desire to become members of HPC. Haley and Ryan Day and Sara Whalen and Nick Pettit. Haley and Ryan are expecting their first child on February 28th. Sara and Nick are engaged to be married this June. These young couples will be a great addition to our family and I know you will want to get to know them.

There are others who have expressed interest in joining our church as well, but I need to meet with them and confirm it before I make that announcement.

Exciting things happen in Ordinary Time! May our congregation give thanks for the blessings in the ordinary times of our lives.

Peace and Grace!

Rev. Sharlyn

For You To Consider:

2012 PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT

Just as each member helps support our local church, each church has a responsibility to support the mission of the governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Our congregation's share of the support for PC USA General Assembly, Synod of the Covenant, and the Presbytery of Lake Huron amounts to \$2562.84 and is due in mid-February. The amount billed to our church is calculated by the total of church-wide expenses divided by the total number of members. For 2012 the amount is \$ 22.68 per active member (non-confirmed youth or children are not included in this Per Capita assessment).

"Per Capita is an opportunity for all active members of the Presbyterian Church throughout the governing bodies to participate equally, responsibly and independently by sharing the cost of coordination and evaluation of mission; and of performing ecclesiastical,



This monthly coed study gathers together men and women into one group on the first Thursday of the month, where we discuss more in-depth topics about the history behind our faith. We are currently listening to and discussing a series of lectures about the writing of the New Testament (or the New Covenant). Who really wrote what, when were things put down in writing, and why was the original text written in Greek rather than Aramaic are some of the things we are considering.

The 1st Thursday of every month @ 7:00pm

Leader: Barb Brown

COLLECTING USED CELL PHONES & INK JET CARTRIDGES!



If you have old cell phones, or empty ink jet cartridges that you want to get rid of we can

legislative, and judicious functions that identify a Reformed church, while at the same time strengthening the sense of community among all Presbyterians." (General Assembly minutes, Part 1, 1995)

Of the \$ 22.68 due for each of our active members:

- \$ 6.63 goes to support the work of General Assembly
- \$ 3.25 supports the work of the Synod of the Covenant (Michigan and Ohio)
- \$ 12.80 supports the work of the Presbytery of Lake Huron.

While our church has paid Per Capita from general funds in the past, for the past few years we have asked each member to pay their own Per Capita expense if possible. Our finances just don't allow us to cover it anymore. Please mail or deposit into the offering plate your check marked "Per Capita" to cover the number of active members in your household. Pew envelopes are also available.

The Session gratefully thanks you in advance for this voluntary giving and support of the larger family of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

THANK YOU!

This is the information that our Presbytery puts out about per capita:
<http://www.presbylh.org/mediafiles/2012-per-capita-bulletin-insert.pdf>
 and "A Fair Share" from this one:
<http://www.pacificpresbytery.org/documents/per-capita.pdf>

Annual Congregational Meeting: February 12th, 2012 following worship

MARK YOUR CALENDARS. . .for this important annual meeting of the church family to look at not only our current situation but to look ahead at the exciting future God has in store for HPC. Don't miss this opportunity to hear what is being planned by your session and to share your thoughts & concerns. Together we are called to be "like living stones" let us gather as the foundation of the

help! The church is collecting these items as part of the "Phoneraiser" fundraising program. We collect the items and mail them in to Phoneraiser, who checks the phones and pays us for any functioning phones and useabel ink cartridges and then properly recycles the unusable items. This great program provides us with a no-cost, easy fundraiser, and a way to be good stewards of God's creation by protecting groundwater that would be contaminated by the chemicals in these items. A drop box is in the narthex.



Save Your VG's Reciepts!

Bring your Vg's reciepts to church and we can turn them to generate funds though Vg's Community Share Points program.

church!

The 2012 ANNUAL REPORT will be available soon!

ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22nd SOUP & BREAD SUPPER 6:30PM

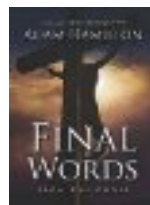
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE FEBRUARY 22nd 7:15PM

Following our Soup supper & Study we will move into the sanctuary for a brief prayer service & the imposition of ashes.

What is Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs 46 days before Easter. It is a moveable fast, falling on a different date each year because it is dependent on the date of Easter. It can occur as early as February 4 or as late as March 10. According to the Canonical gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, Jesus spent forty days fasting in the desert before the beginning of his public ministry, during which he endured temptation by Satan. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of this forty day liturgical period of prayer and fasting. Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of adherents as a sign of mourning and repentance to God. The ashes used are typically gathered after the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday are burned.

LENTEN STUDY



"Final Words: From the Cross"

Stand at the foot of the cross and take Jesus' dying words into your heart! In his 5-week study, Hamilton introduces the people who heard Christ's last statements and invites you to reflect on the meaning of "Father, forgive them"; "My God, why have you forsaken me?"; and other Scripture verses as you journey through Lent.

**The Final Words Study will be held
Thursdays at 7:00pm beginning on March 1st**



**REMEMBER TO
ORDER YOUR
GREAT LAKES
SCRIP!**



Great Lakes Scrip is simply buying gift cards to stores, gas stations & websites that you already shop at and the church earns a percentage on each card purchased. See Vicki Lyles or Christine Cook about how you can support the church through your regular shopping!



**YOUR INTERNET
SEARCHES CAN
HELP THE CHURCH!**

Check out Good Search online to find out how! It's SO easy and has great potential to support the ministries here at HPC!

**OUR CHURCH
FAMILY PRAYER**

FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

- Feb 1 WORSHIP MTG 7:00pm
OUTREACH MTG 6:30pm
- Feb 2 YOGA GROUP 6:15pm- EveningPractice
DIGGING DEEPER STUDY 7:00pm
- Feb 5 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am
WORSHIP 10:30am
CONGREGATIONAL CARE MTG Following
worship
TRIP TO DIA-REMBRANDT EXHIBIT 1:30pm
AA 3:00pm
No TFC Meal
- Feb 6 AA AND ALANON 7:00pm
- Feb 8 CHRISTIAN ED. MTG 7:00pm
- Feb 9 YOGA GROUP 6:15pm- EveningPractice
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S STUDY 7:00pm
- Feb
10 BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm
- Feb
12 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am
WORSHIP 10:30am
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
11:30am
AA 3:00pm
TFC MEAL & STUDY 5:00pm
- Feb
13 AA AND ALANON 7:00pm
- Feb
14 STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE 7:00pm
- Feb
16 YOGA GROUP 6:15pm- EveningPractice
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S STUDY 7:00pm
- Feb
18 BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 2:00pm
- Feb
19 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am
WORSHIP 10:30am
AA 3:00pm
TFC MEAL & STUDY 5:00pm

CONCERNS

For all those who are in nursing homes, shut in, or seeking comfort and healing.

For Dan Nash, Pat Frank, Ardath Regan, Margaret Rainey, Joey Olson, Margaret House, Judy Studer, Marjorie Smith, Beth Dryer, Bill and Mary Renico, and the family of Beth Foss.

For all those struggling financially due to job loss and economic setbacks.

For our service men and women, and national and world leaders.

- Feb 20 AA AND ALANON 7:00pm
- Feb 21 SESSION MTG 7:00pm
- Feb 22 ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPER 6:30pm
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7:15pm
- Feb 23 YOGA GROUP 6:15pm- EveningPractice
NO MEN'S AND WOMEN'S STUDY
- Feb 24 BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm
CONFIRMATION CLASS RETREAT
- Feb 26 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am
WORSHIP 10:30am
AA 3:00pm
TFC MEAL & STUDY 5:00pm
- Feb 27 AA AND ALANON 7:00pm
- Feb 28 PROPERTY COMM MTG 7:00pm
AVNEE'S ANGELS GRIEF SUPPORT 6:30PM
- Mar 1 LENTEN STUDY: FINAL WORDS 7:00PM
- Mar 3 ALL CHURCH WORK DAY 9am - 3pm

Holly Presbyterian Church

A member of Lake Huron Presbytery, Presbyterian Church USA
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Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm & 1:00pm - 3:00pm Office Closed on Monday

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn DeHaven Gates

248.369.8893(h) 620.423.2671(c)

E-Mail: pastor@hollypc.org