

# Holly Presbyterian Church Newsletter



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



**January 2013**

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**Upcoming Events!**

## Grace upon Grace!

**Happy New Year to all our friends and family at Holly Presbyterian Church!**

I love the New Year! I love new beginnings, letting the old things that don't matter go, carrying with us and treasuring all that does, and having a sense of a fresh start for the year to come. To me, all that feels like a good description of grace!

## **Elder Training Retreat**

January 26th  
9:30pm - 2:30pm  
Randy & Christine  
Cook's home

New & returning Elders will gather for a day retreat on Saturday, January 26th from 9:30am until 2:30pm. This time of training, prayer, & reflection will be led by Rev. Sharlyn Gates, and Elder Jim Lyles, Clerk of Session.

## **Elder Installation**

January 27th  
During Worship



**Adult Sunday School** - Will resume on January 6th at 9:30 am. The Beatitudes Study with Barb Brown meets in the Fellowship Hall, and HPC 101 with Rev. Sharlyn meets in her office. All are

We are still soaking up the glory as we celebrate that the Light of God has come in the birth of a Savior, Christ our Lord. His name is Emmanuel, which means "God is With Us." Alleluia! What a promise! What assurance! What comfort.

The Gospel of John says this:

*And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known. (John 1:14, 16-18)*

Many people look back over the years past - some with good memories and thanksgiving for blessings and accomplishments. Some look back with sorrow over heartache and loss. Others are full of regret and remorse for actions they took that they wish they could take back.

Many people make New Year's Resolutions which often end up being forgotten before the month of January is over. They resolve to lose weight, to exercise more, to do better with a budget, to ... well, the list is long.

With this new year all spread out before us, how about we just decide to receive and to give the grace God gives us in Christ? Grace upon grace! We decide today to forgive the past - all we've done and all that has been done. That is not an easy thing to do, especially when there may have been seriously offensive and painful things done. That isn't saying there might not be work to do to heal, either. But deciding to

*welcome to attend either class.*

***The Gathering Place for Kids*** - Will resume on January 6th at 9:30 am.

**Wednesday Lunch Bunch** - Will resume meeting every Wednesday at 12:00 pm on January 9th. The topic will be *Paul's Letter to the Ephesians*. Led by *Charlee Litten*.

**The Digging Deeper Study** - In January the Christian Education Team will be evaluating the topic, day and times for this evening study. If you have an opinion please see *Christine Cook*.

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

We are beginning to compile our 2012 Annual Report. It will be distributed prior the winter congregational meeting next month. If you chair a committee, or lead a group, please submit a report on or before January 15, 2012. All reports should be sent to the church office.

You can email it to: [office@hollypc.org](mailto:office@hollypc.org) or place a copy in the mail box of Laura Parker

forgive and to let our hearts be free of carrying accusations and resentment is a good start for the year and a good beginning for healing.

In Emmanuel - God coming to us in Christ - we have been given grace upon grace. Whatever we have done that we regret; whatever we have left undone by ignorance or stubbornly refusing to address and take action on; whatever times we have not helped others or stood up for justice ... whatever it is we regret and repent of, God has forgiven! We are given a new life, free and clear! Grace upon grace!

How about we decide to carry the grace God has shown us into the world where there are still those who have not recognized that their Light has come? John says in verse 5, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (NRSV).

But the old King James interpretation of that verse is: "And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness *comprehended* it not." There are those still in darkness that have not comprehended - have not recognized the Light of Christ among them.

In this New Year - this new beginning - my prayer is that all my congregation, and all my family, and myself - that we might be determined to accept that grace upon grace (forgiving ourselves and accepting forgiveness) and that we might show grace upon grace to everyone.

What a wonderful new year this will be! We have seen the Light! And in it comes Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Grace upon Grace!

## *January Calendar of Events*



- Jan 6     ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am  
            THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am  
            FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am  
            WORSHIP 11:00am  
            CHRISTMAS DÉCOR TEARDOWN 12:00pm  
            AA 3:00pm
- Jan 7     AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
- Jan 8     STEWARDSHIP MTG 7:00pm
- Jan 9     WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon  
            WORSHIP COMMITTEE MTG 7:00pm  
            CHRISTMAS DÉCOR TEARDOWN 1:00pm
- Jan 11    BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm
- Jan 12    BACK UP CHRISTMAS TEARDOWN 10:00am
- Jan 13    ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am  
            THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am  
            FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am  
            WORSHIP 11:00am  
            AA 3:00pm
- Jan 14    AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
- Jan 15    OUTREACH 6:00pm  
            SESSION MTG 7:00pm
- Jan 16    WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon  
            CONGREGATIONAL CARE MTG 6:30pm  
            CHRISTIAN ED. MTG 7:00pm
- Jan 18    OFFICE CLOSED
- Jan 19    BABY PANTRY 10am - 2pm  
            PLAY GROUP 12:00pm-1:30pm
- Jan 20    ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am  
            THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am  
            FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am  
            WORSHIP 11:00am

AA 3:00pm  
 Jan 21 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm  
 Jan 23 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon  
 Jan 25 BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm  
 Jan 26 ELDER TRAINING 9:30am - 2:30pm  
 Jan 27 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am  
 THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am  
 FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am  
 WORSHIP 11:00am  
 AA 3:00pm  
 Jan 28 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm  
 Jan 30 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon

## *Praying for each other. . .*

### *Concerns. . .*

- For all those who are in nursing homes, shut in, or seeking comfort and healing.
- For Dan Nash, Ardath Regan, Travis, Beatrice Johnston, Harriett Striggow, Virginia McDonald, Elizabeth Kici, Lisette Cotaling, Steve Fuller, Barb Brown, Mark and Del Ridley, Gladys Havenstein, Judy Merritt, Colleen Spring, Evie Gudith, Ethel Weithoff and Pohlana.
- For the families of Pat Frank, and of Ivah Curle, who have both passed into the greater life.
- For all those who are struggling with economic set backs, family problems, and emotional upheavals.
- For all those grieving and hurting in the wake of the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary. May they all feel the comfort of God's love!

### *Joys. . .*

- For the newest member of our church family, Donna DeNise, as she reaffirms her faith. May God's grace and love shine on and through her.



## Order January 6th - Delivery January 13th

We receive a small profit from the sale of each card, which goes toward our everyday expenses. The church should net approximately \$500 this year from this easy fundraiser.

In addition to the *gas, grocery, and restaurant cards* that most of us order throughout the year, there are also gift cards available for many *major retail stores, amazon.com, and iTunes.*

Look at the complete list of cards available at:

<http://www.glscrip.com/shop/Search.aspx?SearchType=2&CategoryID=0&PageIndex=1>

If you do not feel comfortable using a computer, talk to Christine Cook or Vicki Lyles and we can let you know if what you want is available. Thank you for your support!!

## Property Update. . . .

The construction crew has framed in the new walls, built the new stairs, and a new basement entrance. The next phase of this project will be under way soon.

A temporary, aluminum, rental ramp has been installed to maintain handicap access to the building until the new permanent ramp is rebuilt.

Lori Goldsmith is still looking for two volunteers to head up a church cleaning team and a landscaping team. Please let her know if you have any questions regarding these important positions.





## Your 2012 Session

### **Class of 2012**

Jennifer Chanter	Personnel	(248) 634-3331
Dessalee Cook	Worship	(248) 634-5680
Jim Lyles	Clerk	(248) 634-4610
Brian Parker	Technology	(248) 634-2773

### **Class of 2013**

Christine Cook	Christian Education	(248) 887-6647
Lori Goldsmith	Property	(810) 397-9722
Roberta Single	Congregational Care	(248) 634-4360
Gerry Jackson	Stewardship	(248) 459-0240

### **Class of 2014**

Amy Jones	Congregational Care	(248) 249-4279
Karen Haneline	Outreach	(248) 634-7339
Amanda Banks	Christian Education	(248) 382-5110
Judy Studer	Outreach	(248) 634-8918

Margaret Perry      Worship

(810) 735-7692

**Minister: The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn Gates**

248.369.8893(h)

620.423.2671(c)

**Commissioned Ruling Elder Intern:  
Shaun Hardimon**

810.635.0586(h)

586.292.8772(c)

## In the Beginning News!



### ***Parent Child Play Group***

*Every third Saturday of the month!*

***A time for parents of infants and toddlers to join together to  
share and learn from each other!***

***12:00pm-1:30pm***

*Located in the Fellowship Hall*

*For more information contact Krystal Caloia at  
kcaloia1007@yahoo.com*

### **UPCOMING BABY PANTRY DATES:**

Fri. Jan 11, 10am - 12pm

Sat. Jan 19, 10am - 2pm

Fri. Jan 25, 10am - 12pm

**Please keep ALL of the Baby Pantry families in your prayers  
daily. May they experience the love and grace of our Lord  
through this ministry!**

If you feel called to this ministry please see Christine Cook or call  
the office. ***Items that are in constant need include: Kleenex,  
diapers and pull ups, wipes, lotions, hand soap & diaper rash  
cream!***