

# 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.



**March 2013**

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## *Reflections . . . ...On the Lenten Journey*

I've been reading and reflecting on the devotions in our Lenten Devotional book, written by Blair R. Monie. I especially like the one for Friday, February 15, 2013. It is based on the beatitude in Matthew 5, where Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."



"God So Loved the  
World. . ."

Holy Week 2013

**Palm Sunday**

March 24th

**Maundy Thursday**

**Soup Dinner &  
Tenebrae Drama**

March 28th  
6:30 pm Dinner  
7:15 pm Service

**Good Friday**

**Community Service**

March 29th  
Host Church TBA  
Soon!

**Easter Sunday**

March 31st

Monie asks the question: "Which is better - empty or full?" I agree when she says that we usually prefer full over empty. We don't want our stomachs to be empty. It's not good if our gas tanks are empty! We probably would not even say we prefer to be spiritually empty, right? The beatitudes are so opposite of what our human nature leans toward. "Blessed are the poor in spirit; blessed are those who mourn; blessed are the meek, the hungry and thirsty (in spirit)." We tend to think we are blessed if we have a lot, if we feel happy and strong and ... well ... full! But Monie says "this spiritual poverty sets the tone for Lent. We must be empty before we can be filled with the good things of God."

I was sharing this with Fred and we began to think about how this "fullness" we desire points to how easily we humans are full of ourselves. Our need to be happy, full of food, money, power ... all leads back to our self need, our self focus. Maybe the place where we should be the most empty as we travel on this Lenten Journey is within ourselves.



**Adult Sunday School**  
*Begins at 9:30 am. The*  
Beatitudes Study with  
Barb Brown meets in the  
Fellowship Hall, and HPC

During Lent we speak of the wilderness or the desert place where we go, not usually in a physical way, but in a spiritual way. The desert fathers and mothers - those monastic, spiritual people who chose to live their lives in seclusion from the rest of the world practiced some things that are good for us to consider.

When we take the time to sit in silence, breathing in and out, emptying our heads of all the thoughts and conversations that clutter our minds, emptying our spirits of our desires and

101 with Rev. Sharlyn  
meets in her office.

All are welcome to  
attend either class.

***The Gathering Place  
for Kids***

*Begins 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 is on Hiatus  
until after Lent.**

plans and just sitting, as empty as possible,  
waiting on the Lord - when we take the time for  
this quiet, but difficult discipline - we can be  
renewed by the Spirit of God breathing new life  
into us, filling us with His love, His grace, His  
assurance, His very Presence.

Think of being an empty vessel, ready to be filled  
with whatever God wants for us. Ready and  
waiting on the Holy Spirit to move and breath in  
us and to give us new life.

In that spiritual poverty we begin to be  
transformed into the new creation that God  
wants us to be. With the psalmist we too can  
say "create in me a clean heart and renew a right  
spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10)

*Peace and Grace with you on this Lenten  
Journey.*

In Christ's Love,  
*Rev. Sharlyn*

## *March Calendar of Events*



- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| Mar 3 | ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am<br>THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am<br>FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am<br>WORSHIP 11:00am<br>AA 3:00pm |
| Mar 4 | AA AND ALANON 7:30pm   |

Mar 5	TECHNOLOGY MTG 7:30pm
Mar 6	WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon WORSHIP COMMITTEE MTG 6:30pm
Mar 8	BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm
Mar 10	ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am **BAKE SALE TOO! WORSHIP 11:00am AA 3:00pm
Mar 11	AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
Mar 12	STEWARDSHIP MTG 7:00pm
Mar 13	WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon CONGREGATIONAL CARE MTG 6:30pm CHRISTIAN ED. MTG 7:00pm
Mar 15	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE****
Mar 16	BABY PANTRY 10am - 2pm PLAY GROUP 12:00pm-1:30pm
Mar 17	ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am WORSHIP 11:00am AA 3:00pm
Mar 18	AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
Mar 19	OUTREACH 6:00pm SESSION MTG 7:00pm
Mar 20	WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
Mar 22	BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm
Mar 24	ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am WORSHIP 11:00am AA 3:00pm
Mar 25	AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
Mar 27	WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
Mar 28	MAUNDY THURSDAY SOUP SUPPER 6:30pm "FACING THE SHADOWS" Dramatic Tenebrae Service 7:15pm
Mar 29	GOOD FRIDAY
Mar 31	ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN!! FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am EASTER WORSHIP 11:00am AA 3:00pm

## Praying for our church family

### 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, Steve Fuller, Barb Brown, Gladys Havenstein, Judy Merritt, Evie Gudith, Ethel Weithoff, Joe Watkins, Bob Killewald, Bud, and Rod Haneline's mother, June.
- Del Ridley and family as they grieve the passing of Mark Ridley, For the families of Virginia McDonald and Lisette Cotaling as they grieve.
- For all those who are struggling with economic set backs, family problems, and emotional upheavals.

### Joys

- We give thanks for the blessing of strong leadership. Continue to keep Rev. Sharlyn, and the members of Session, in your prayers as they lead our church forward in ministry and mission.

### *Prayer Requests from the Lake Huron Presbytery:*

- Rebecca Francek, Inquirer Under Care of the Presbytery continues to experience significant health issues including a recent hospital stay.
- The Rev. Dr. Rhonda Myers (Midland-Chapel Lane) has recently completed her treatment for cancer. Rhonda and husband, the Rev. Dave Myers (Interim Pastor of Tawas), are grateful for everything that people have done for them, including: prayers, well wishes, cards, meals and more.
- Caro-First as they go through the process of finding a called pastor.
- Karen Banaszak, Certified Christian Educator and her loved ones, Karen continues to experience significant health issues along with battling MS.



## Order March 3rd - Delivery March 10th

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](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. . . .



### It's been busy few months at HPC!

Great progress is being made on the west basement project with the rough plumbing and the electrical being finished. Our building ventilation/dehumidifier system has been installed. The next phase is have the drywall installed and to get the painting done. We hope to see that finished with in the month.

### On the water front. . .

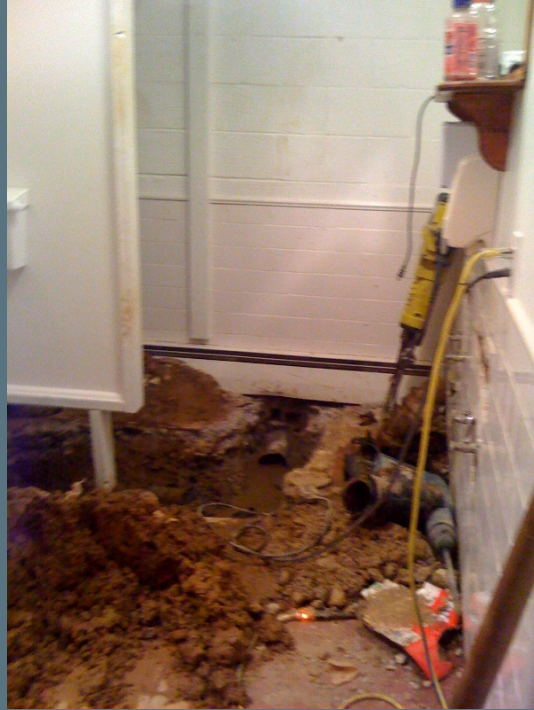
In December, and early January, we experienced some significant sewer issues that were traced to a problem in the lines below the restrooms downstairs, and at the connection to the main line. Swift action was taken and the flood water was handles and the sewers repaired. We now have a healthy drain system!

Property is working on bids for the repairs from the water to the floors



and base boards. We hope to have that resolved very soon.

Here are some pictures of the recent work!



## Your 2013 Session

### **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

### **Class of 2015**

Charlee Litten	Personnel	(810) 694-0095
Dessalee Cook	Worship	(248) 634-5680
Jim Lyles	Clerk	(248) 634-4610
Nick Pettit	Technology	(810) 869-4883

**Minister: The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn Gates** 248.369.8893(h)  
620.423.2671(c)

**Commissioned Ruling Elder Intern:** 810.635.0586(h)  
**Shaun Hardimon** 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*

### **Prayer requests from our families:**

- Pray for one month old baby, Brooklyn Noggle, who has suffered from RSV and now home from the hospital, and for her mom Jessie.
- Pray for Brittany Carmichael, young mother of two, who suffered a mild stroke last week. Pray that her vision returns fully.
- Pray for those parents who are not getting enough hours on their work schedules.
- Pray for those parents who are seeking work.

### **Exciting News!**

We are happy to announce that our church will host the *Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women of the Lake Huron Presbytery (South Area)* on

*Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.*

*The Baby Pantry will be the Mission Project for the gathering!* The women are asked to bring diapers for our baby pantry and will have an opportunity to make a financial donation as well.

TFC is asking for support for this event from the congregation as it is a big undertaking for them. They will be providing coffee & sweets in the morning, and a lunch at noon, as well as leading a short worship service, and doing an in-depth presentation on their ministry. This is big deal and has the potential to provide much needed support and awareness from outside the church. Please see Christine Cook, or Laura Parker if you can help.

### **UPCOMING DATES:**

Fri. Mar 8, 10am - 12pm

Sat. Mar 16, 10am - 2pm

Fri. Mar 22, 10am - 12pm

***Items we need include: Diapers, Kleenex, wipes, lotions, & diaper rash cream!***

If you feel called to this ministry please see a TFC member, Christine Cook, or Krystal Caloia.

*"And he took the Children in his arms, put His hands on them and blessed them."*

*Mark 10:16*



## BAKE SALE ! March 10th, 2013

Congregational Care Committee is sponsoring a bake sale the second Sunday of each month. *The proceeds are going toward the Boiler Fund.* Anyone willing to donate baked goods for this cause will be greatly appreciated. CCC will furnish the baked goods for February 10th. Items will be sold on a donation basis. If you have questions call either Amy Jones 248-249-4279 or Elizabeth Kici 248-634-3268

### For Your Information. . .

- If you have something that you would like included in the newsletter please submit it to the church office by the 15th of the month prior. Thanks!
- If you are not receiving the Email Newsletter and other e-updates and would like to please call the office at 248-634-9494 and we would be happy to add your email to our list!
- If you have had a change of phone, email or address in the past year, we

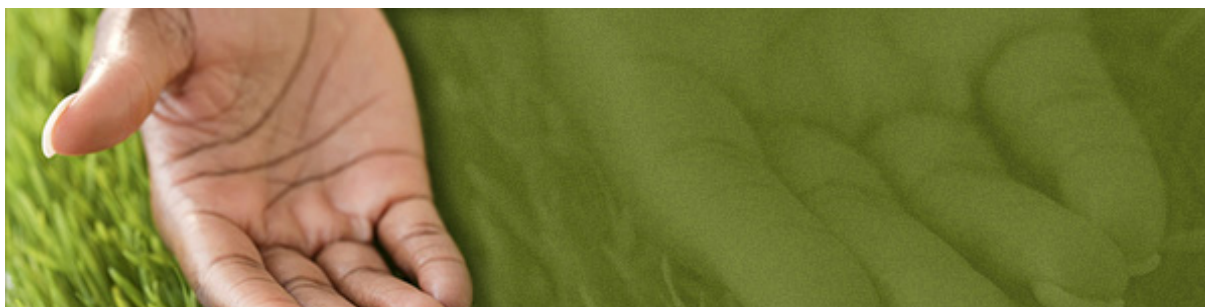
would like to know so that we can make sure everyone's contact information is current in our database.

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING GIVING**

**RECORDS:** Giving envelopes and all documentation related to tax deductible giving will be disposed of in July of the following year. The church provides all parties who have made a tax deductible gifts with semi annual contribution statements in July, and annual contributions statements in January each year. It is important to review those statements and notify the office of any discrepancies promptly.



## **Supporting Missions . . .**



### **The Keefer Family-Athletes in Action**

Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor, Mi

### **The lobst Family- Operations Transit** Algeciras, Spain

(Both Working Under Campus Crusade for Christ)

### **North End Soup Kitchen** Flint, Mi

### **nnis Foundation**

Pontiac, Mi

**HPC Christmas Adopt a Family**

**In the Beginning Baby Pantry**

**Forgotten Harvest Food Pantry**

Holly, Mi