

# 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.



**April 2013**

## In This Issue

[Our Missionaries](#)  
[Sunday School](#)  
[Calendar of Events](#)  
[Praying for each other](#)  
[Scrip Orders!](#)  
[Our Building](#)  
[Outreach Updates!](#)  
[Baby Pantry News](#)  
[Bake Sale](#)  
[Rummage Sale!](#)  
[Per Capita Update](#)  
[Session List](#)

*"Why do you look for the living among the dead?*

*He is not here, but has risen."*

Luke 24:5b

**Alleluia! Christ is  
risen.**

**He is risen indeed!**

What wonderful words those are! We speak them as part of our liturgy on Easter Sunday, after a long, dry



## Missionary Updates. . .

Athletes in Action missionaries, Colby and Sarah Keefer, continue to reach college athletes in the name of Christ.

To catch up with them and their latest news click the link below.

[\*\*Athletes in Action  
March Newsletter\*\*](#)

Campus Crusade for Christ missionaries, Allen and DeeDee Iobst, continue to reach people in the name of Christ and distribute bibles.

To catch up with them and their latest news click the link below.

[\*\*Campus Crusade for  
Christ Operation  
Transit Website\*\*](#)

**Adult Sunday School**  
*Begins at 9:30 am.*  
*The Beatitudes Study*

period - 40 days of not saying Alleluia! We wait through Lent, reflecting and praying; repenting and considering the cost of our forgiveness. Through the long, dark days of Holy Week we drudged along, finding meaning in Maundy Thursday and feeling sorrow on Good Friday as we related as much as we could to Jesus' suffering and passionate love for us - a love that sent him to die on the cross.

But now, these words are like fresh flowers just blooming in spring! They are like the first morning of creation, new to the mind and to the tongue. It's part of the joy of waiting and walking through the days of Lent for me. To finally come to Easter, even though I know it's coming; even though I've not forgotten, not even for a minute, what Jesus did for us or that the tomb was empty - still, it's like brand new to me when we come to Easter morning! It feels like a weight has been lifted and new life truly has come upon us!

Isaiah also speaks of the new in chapter 65:17,18. He writes: "For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight." (NRSV)

At Easter, we rejoice in the empty tomb and the message it has for us! Not only do we celebrate that the power of God raised Jesus Christ from death to life but also that we too are raised from death to life.

Yet, there is even more! Because, if we will but look around, we will see resurrection - new life - in so many places. The angel asked, that early Easter morning, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen."

If we are failing to see new life happening then perhaps we are looking among the dead instead of the living. That is, maybe we are looking for the same old things; looking with eyes that don't see new possibilities, new ways of living, doing and being. Perhaps God truly is doing a new thing among us. Maybe we just aren't looking in the right places and for the right things.

Resurrection life - new life - is a transformed life.



with Randy Cook meets in the Fellowship Hall, and HPC 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**

Meets every Wednesday at 12:00 pm . The topic is Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. Led by Charlee Litten.

**The Digging Deeper  
Study is on Hiatus  
until Fall.**

When we have gone through Lent with a repentant heart, truly wanting to renew our relationship with Christ and to turn around from our old ways - we have begun a resurrection life.

When we decide in the church to do new things, to accept a new day and a new way of doing or understanding ministry; when we open ourselves to new models of worship that might seem refreshing and exciting - we experience transformation.

When we allow ourselves to see people through the eyes of God and we open our hearts to more compassion, to more giving, to a desire to help, to pray more, to smile more, to make a difference - we find resurrection!

I think that is what God is saying through Isaiah about a new heaven and a new earth. We look forward to a life that is eternal in a place where God's glory surrounds us - a place we call heaven. But, when God's people get excited in new ways about discipleship, about worship, about ministry and mission, we find a new heaven right here on earth! We experience new, transformed, resurrection life!

May the joy of Easter permeate our sanctuary, our entire church building in all our activities; may it burst out the door and through the streets of Holly and beyond; may Easter joy flow into our homes, our relationships, our thoughts, our prayers, our attitudes and our actions. May all who know us see us as real, authentic Easter People!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Peace, Grace, Joy and Love!

*Rev. Sharlyn*

## *April Calendar of Events*



- Apr 1 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm  
Apr 2 TECHNOLOGY MTG 7:30pm  
Apr 3 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon  
PROPERTY COMMITTEE MTG 7:00pm  
WORSHIP COMMITTEE MTG 7:00pm  
Apr 7 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  
Apr 8 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm  
Apr 9 STEWARDSHIP MTG 7:00pm  
Apr 10 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon  
CONGREGATIONAL CARE MTG 6:30pm  
CHRISTIAN ED. MTG 7:00pm  
Apr 12 BABY PANTRY 10am - 12pm  
Apr 14 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am  
THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am  
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am  
WORSHIP 11:00am  
AA 3:00pm  
Apr 15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE\*\*\*\*  
AA AND ALANON 7:30pm  
Apr 16 OUTREACH 6:00pm  
SESSION MTG 7:00pm  
Apr 17 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon  
Apr 20 BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 2:00pm  
PLAY GROUP 12:00pm-1:30pm  
Apr 21 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am  
THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am

	FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am
	WORSHIP 11:00am
	AA 3:00pm
Apr 22	AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
Apr 26	WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
Apr 26	BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm
Apr 28	ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am
	THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am
	FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am
	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, Rod Haneline's mother June, and Sue (Single) Amory.
- 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.
- For the wonderful work of the Outreach Committee on their Easter Basket Project!
- For the diligent efforts of the Property Committee on the repairs to the lower level!





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

- Elder Pat Rice (Flint-Trinity United) whose husband, Randy passed to the larger life on February 27th.
- The Rev. Dr. Stephen Shugert (Honorably Retired) and his wife Wendy, on the passing of Steve's brother, Jim on March 6th.
- Marquietta Davis (Former Presbytery Staff Member) on the passing of her father, Grover on February 21st. .
- Those who were on staff at the Office of the General Assembly but have recently been downsized and for the remaining staff as they continue to go through a time of transition. We are grateful for their ministry and dedication.
- 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.
- 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 Scrip This Week!**

### **Order April 7th - Delivery April 14th**

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?>

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 drywall and plaster being finished. The next phase is to get the painting done. We will be doing the painting ourselves and hope to see many volunteers. Work days will be scheduled soon!

Here are some pictures of the recent work!









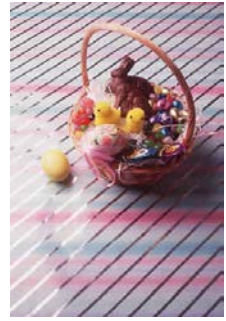
## **On the water front. . .**

In March the repairs from the water to the floors and base boards was completed and we are better than before! We give prayers of thanks to the teams from ServPro who worked hard to get us back on track, and to make the repairs meet our expectations! Our Property and Christian Ed teams spent many hours working on this project! Thanks be to God for their dedication!

*Please - Keep the entire Property Committee in your prayers as they work hard to juggle the work here at HPC with their own careers and home life.*

# OUTREACH Updates. . .

**EASTER PROJECT REPORT!** Outreach Committee and HPC volunteers, led by TFC member Kenzie Nash, worked for months raising funds and collecting donations to create *50 EASTER BASKETS* to benefit Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac! Grace Center of Hope is one Michigan's oldest ministries to disadvantaged women and children. Praise God for this opportunity to join in bringing the love of Christ to the young families of our greater community.



**COMING SOON! POP CANS FOR POSTAGE!** Outreach will be conducting a pop can drive during the months of April and May in order to raise money for postage for the welcome to new resident's postcards we send periodically. If you would like to help with this outreach project, please save your pop can return receipts and place them in the clear envelope in the kitchen *OR* place your clean returnable pop cans in the marked tub located just outside the kitchen.



## 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](mailto:kcaloia1007@yahoo.com)*

## Prayer requests from our families:

- Pray for baby, Brooklyn Noggle, who suffered from RSV earlier this winter, and has now been diagnosed with Galactosemia is a rare genetic metabolic disorder, and for her mom Jessie.
- Pray for Brittany Carmichael, young mother of two, who continues to recover from a mild stroke last month. 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. April 12, 10am - 12pm  
Sat. April 20, 10am - 2pm  
Fri. April 26, 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! APRIL 14**

*All of the proceeds from the bake sales will be used to benefit the church's Boiler Fund.* If anyone is willing to donate baked goods for this ongoing cause, it will be greatly appreciated. Congregational Care Committee is sponsoring this series of bake sales on the second Sunday of each month. The April contact people are Beth Dryer 634- 7824 and Mary Renico 810-694-3281.

### **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.





COMING SOON!

Annual Rummage Sale May 30, 31 & June 1st. It's that time again. Clean out your closets and house to donate items for our rummage sale fundraiser. Suggested donations are household items, spring/summer clothing, shoes, and hats. Also, outdoor decor, garden and yard tools, sporting goods, jewelry, children's toys, books and anything else that is clean, usable and in working order.

Not accepted at this time are fall/winter clothing, fall and Christmas holiday decorations or winter goods. We are planning another sale in October for these items.

Any questions call Mary Renico at 810-694-3281 or Fran Olson at 248-628-3161. Congregational Care Committee

### **PER CAPITA UPDATE FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

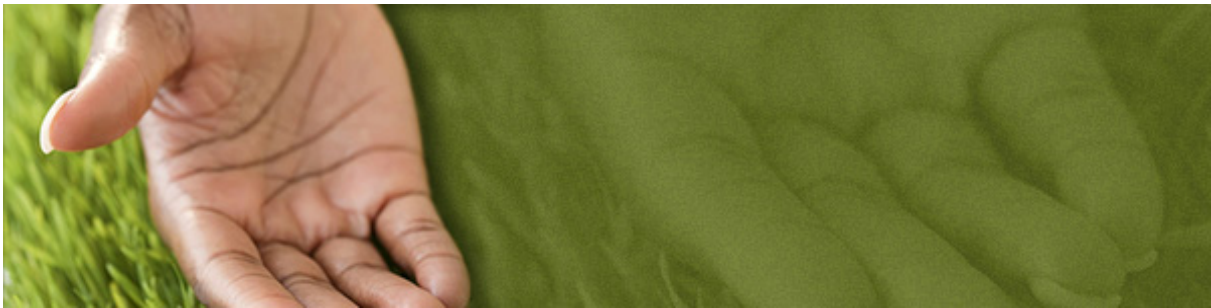
Each year our church is required to pay per capita fees to Presbytery. The fee is based on active members of our church. For 2013, per capita fees were \$2428.62. This equates to \$23.81 per member. While this fee is budgeted each year, it is not an easy expense to pay. Heating bills are higher in the winter, insurance is paid every January,



and February is a short month.

A big thank you to those who have contributed to this payment; \$615.48 has been received through the end of February. We are still gratefully accepting donations toward this expense. Please prayerfully consider sending payment for the per capita fees associated with yourself and immediate family; for a family of four active voting members this equates to \$95.24. All per capita contributions will appear on your annual giving statement and will help ease our winter finances. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Stewardship Committee. Thanks you for your prayerful consideration .

## **Supporting Missions . . .**



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

Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor, Mi

### **The Iobst 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

## 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:  
Shaun Hardimon** 810.635.0586(h)  
586.292.8772(c)