

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.



May 2013

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It seems a while back now since we did our intentional study on the *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*. Remember? The author, Robert Schnase writes that in his experience as a United Methodist Bishop, congregations that are vital, alive and growing both in spirit and in numbers are those who genuinely practice these five things:



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**](#)
April Newsletter

Campus Crusade for Christ missionaries, Allen and DeeDee lobst, 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**](#)

- Radical Hospitality
- Passionate Worship
- Intentional Faith Development
- Risk-taking Mission and Service
- Extravagant Generosity

We had a great time of celebration as a church family, ending the study with an ingathering banquet, discussing each of the five practices and considering the suggestions given by the five work teams.

As promised, we have a strategic planning team that is meeting and working on goals and tasks to develop a plan for carrying out our vision. Please keep in mind, this strategic planning team is only working on these five practices - not other plans for the church. Our focus right now is on implementing the ideas we had from the *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* study. These strategies will end up as part of a larger, long term plan that will be more inclusive of all aspects of the church.

Some of the things we talked about can be started immediately. For example, we can develop very strong bonds and help others to feel welcome and to find a place as we begin to build small home groups.

Small groups can be an important part of the Christian community! People who have a common interest and passion for something can gather at home (or in another location) and develop a unity that is such a vital part of the Christian faith. Even though we are a small church family, we cannot possibly become close to every person. It is more likely that we will find a bond with those whom we meet with on a regular basis; those whom we share a common interest.

Many congregations are growing disciples and growing in membership because of small, intimate groups. For instance, some meet



Adult Sunday School

Begins at 9:30 am.

The Beatitudes Study 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 current topic is Paul's Letter to the Colossians. Led by Charlee Litten.

Lunch Bunch will be on a break from May 9th until June 7th.

The last week of Colossians is May 8th, and on June 8th we will begin the book of James.

The Digging Deeper Study is on Hiatus until Fall.

together with a common passion for riding motorcycles, some meet to do scrap-booking, some are interested in Bible Study, quilting, art, etc. The list is as long as our interests!

As people meet together, developing strong friendships, they also are developing deep trust in this group of friends. They are disciples of Jesus and while they may not talk all the time about faith, when someone is burdened, this special group is comfortable with praying for each other and encouraging one another.

While committees are designed to help manage all the functions of the church, not everyone finds a place on a committee. But there is a small group for everyone! The ideas and possibilities are endless!

I would like to know your thoughts on what you would like to enjoy in a small group. If you are willing to host a small group in your home, talk to me and I will help you get it started.

Let's get some going, shall we, and build even more close bonds of Christian friendship. Of course, many of you already have close bonds. But, who might you include who doesn't feel they have a place yet? And who might you invite outside of our church family?

Often times, new members come to the church through side doors. Those side doors are small groups where people have a common interest and enjoy being together.

"Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love." Let us work together to grow even stronger ties!

Peace and Grace,

Rev. Sharlyn

May Calendar of Events



- May 1 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
PROPERTY COMMITTEE MTG 7:00pm
WORSHIP COMMITTEE MTG 7:00pm
CHRISTIAN ED. MTG 7:00pm
- May 2 AYSO 7:00pm
- May 4 SNOOP PARTY 7:00pm
- May 5 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am
THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am **SCRIP ORDER DAY
WORSHIP 11:00am
AA 3:00pm
TFC 5:30pm
- May 6 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
- May 7 TECHNOLOGY MTG 7:30pm
- May 8 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
CONGREGATIONAL CARE MTG 6:30pm
- May 10 BABY PANTRY 10am - 12pm
- May 11 ALL CHURCH WORK DAY! 9:00am
- May 12 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am
THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am
WORSHIP 11:00am Mother's Day **BAKE SALE TOO!
AA 3:00pm
- May 13 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
- May 14 STEWARDSHIP MTG 7:00pm
- May 15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE :)
- May 18 PW SPRING GATHERING 9:00am - 1:00pm
BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 2:00pm

May 19 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am
 THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am
 FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am
 WORSHIP 11:00am
 AA 3:00pm
 TFC 5:30pm

May 20 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm

May 21 OUTREACH 6:00pm
 SESSION MTG 7:00pm

May 24 BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm

May 26 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am
 THE GATHERING PLACE FOR KIDS 9:30am
 FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am
 WORSHIP 11:00am
 AA 3:00pm
 TFC 5:30pm

May 27 MEMORIAL DAY
 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm

May 28 RUMMAGE SALE SET UP 9-5

May 29 RUMMAGE SALE SET UP 9-Finished

May 30 RUMMAGE SALE 9-5

May 31 RUMMAGE SALE 9-5

Jun 1 RUMMAGE SALE 9-12

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, Rod Haneline's mother June, Matt Nash, and for Lyndsay Brabon, as she grieves the loss of her grandmother.
- For all those who are struggling with economic set backs, family problems, and emotional upheavals.
- For all those affected by the violence in Boston, the explosion in West, Texas, the earthquake in China, and the recent flooding in the U.S.

Joys

- We give thanks for the members who are completing higher education degrees this year, Bronwyn Cook, Desiree Cook, Dessalee Cook, Katie Parker and Brian Lyles.
- For the diligent efforts of the Property Committee on the repairs to the lower level! May they be encouraged and supported by all.



Prayer Requests from the Lake Huron Presbytery:

Elder Don Donaghy (Sandusky) who is recovering at home from heart surgery. He is very grateful for all of the prayers.

Rebecca Francek , Inquirer Under Care of the Presbytery continues to experience significant health issues including a recent hospital stay.

Karen Banaszak, Certified Christian Educator, and her loved ones, Karen continues to experience significant health issues along with battling MS.

To all of the new Alma College Alumni. Alma College held their graduation ceremony last weekend. We wish you all the best as you embark on your new adventure.

The staff of the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) and the PC(USA) who have experienced significant reductions in staffing in the past few months. We appreciate that they are still performing their jobs at such a high level of professionalism and grace despite being overwhelmed with the increased workload.



Order Scrip This Week!

Order May 5th - Delivery May 12th

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 by
[Clicking Here](#)**

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. . . .

Spring Work Day ! May 11th !

We need MANY HANDS to get the inside and the outside of the building spruced up this spring.

There are tasks of all sizes and skill levels, so there is something for everyone!

We are Making Progress!

The projects in west basement are coming along beautifully. The primer coat of paint is almost finished and the doors and casing have been installed. (Big Hugs to Randy & Broady Cook!) The next phase is to get the finish coat of painting done.

Here are some pictures of the recent work!







On the Water Front. . .

The events this month require us to remember the scriptures from 1 Chronicles 28:20

"David also said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the temple of the Lord is finished."

Our water troubles are not over just yet, as the sump pump in the east basement failed during recent storms causing a flood of the offices and meeting rooms. The failure of the sump pump and subsequent flooding are not a covered event on our property insurance.

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 lives.

OUTREACH Updates. . .



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

Prayer requests from our families:

- Pray for all those in difficult relationships, struggling with emotional and physical abuse, and self doubt. May they be comforted by the love of Christ.
- Continued prayers for baby Brooklyn Noggle, who has Galactosemia, a rare genetic metabolic disorder, and for her mom, Jessie. She is doing well now and we pray she continues to thrive.
- Continued prayers for Brittany Carmichael, young mother of two, who continues to recover from a mild stroke last month. We are still praying 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 18th.*

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.

Baby Pantry Meeting May 5th at 9:30am - Fellowship Hall

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 of 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. May 10, 10am - 12pm

Sat. May 18, 10am - 2pm

Fri. May 24, 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! May 12

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 Amy Jones 248-249-4279 and Del Ridley 248-328-0970.

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 mailing 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.



Register Today!!

Summer camp sessions at Camp Greenwood are just around the corner!

Fees increase June 1st. Let's help get registrations in ASAP!

Our theme this summer is
All Things New: Look What God Is Doing!

Along with our theme, Camp Greenwood will have some new and exciting additions to the program and our facilities. We will also enjoy many of the "old" and familiar things that make camp a place where life long memories are made. Let's help provide the opportunity for as many campers as possible to share in the experience of Christian community, and growth in faith and grace!

Register on-line at www.campgreenwood.org or contact the camp office at 616.754.7258 or office@campgreenwood.org to have a camp brochure with registration forms mailed to you.

Please pray for and support our ministry by sending campers and giving toward scholarships and operations! We are in this together!



Annual Rummage Sale May 30, 31 & June 1st.

It's that time again!

This is a major fund raiser for our church family and everyone's help is appreciated!

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.

What to Expect. . . .

Drop Off Dates:

Items may be brought to the church beginning Sunday, May 19th and placed in the Fellowship Hall. Please have all items to the church by Tuesday, May 28th.

Set-Up Dates: Tuesday, May 28th 9:00am - 5:00pm, and

Wednesday, May 29th 9:00am until finished.

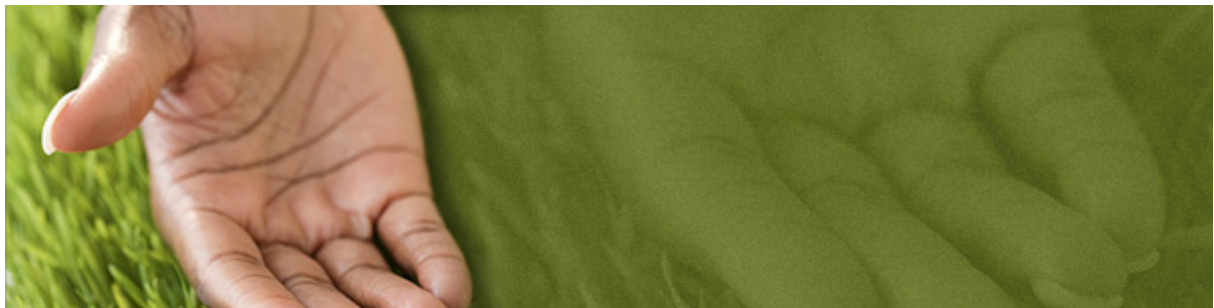
Sale Dates: May 30th, 9am -5pm, May 31, 9am - 5pm, and June 1, 9am - 12 noon.

Sign up Sheets for workers will be placed in the Narthex in the coming weeks.

Any Questions. . .

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

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)

Grace Centers of Hope
Pontiac, Mi

Ennis 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)