

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.



November 2013

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How Can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me?"

- Psalm 116:12, NIV

November is a month full of important, special events! It is, of course, the time when we especially focus on Thanksgiving. It is a time for remembering and giving thanks for the harvest that has been gathered in, even though



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 **October** **Newsletter**

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

Alan and Dee Dee, along with their children, will be spending this year in the United States reconnecting with

most of us are not farmers with crops. Still, we give thanks that we have plenty - plenty of food, plenty of warm shelter, friends, love of family (including our church family), plenty of blessings from the Lord.

On November 10th we will have a very special service to remember those who have gone to be with God. We are inviting family members to come as we give thanks for the memorial gifts we have been blessed with in the name of those loved ones. (This will reach back for the last few years.) We are also looking forward to an open house that same day as we celebrate the re-opening of the Gathering Place, nursery and Teens for Christ room.

November 17th is a very meaningful day in the life of our church family as we, once again, will bring our pledge cards as a covenant with God - a commitment to give back a portion of what God has given us. We will consider not just our financial pledge but also how we can give our time and our talents for the ministry God has blessed us with at Holly Presbyterian Church.

This year, our pledge cards have a space where you can make a commitment to give to the building fund as well as the general pledge, if you feel led to do so. As you know, the maintenance on our building is ongoing and a pledged amount would be a great help in keeping it up.

Robert Schnase writes in the book Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations: "The world says to us Earn all you can, and give out of your abundance. That's not biblical. The Bible teaches us to give in order to enjoy the abundant life. The life that overflows with joy is the life that gives itself away. God is calling us to be people who don't hang on for all we're worth out of fear but who give and give and give freely. And this giving flows as the love of God to other people."

family, attending training conferences, and feeding their faith.

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

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

or

[Iobst Newsletter](#)

Giving is a spiritual discipline, just as prayer, study and worship are. As we generously give, we also grow into mature spiritual people of God.

On November 24th, following worship, we will have a special congregational meeting for the purpose of approving new by-laws, electing new officers and at large members of the nominating committee. Please mark your calendars for that event so we will be sure and have a quorum. Congregational meetings are times for us to celebrate the life and unity of our congregation.

We have much to give thanks for. I thank God for Holly Presbyterian Church!
Peace and Grace!

Rev. Sharlyn

Reflections from Pastor Shaun. . .

What an exciting time the last couple of weeks have been for the kids in our neighborhood as they have been trying to figure out what faces or symbols to put on their pumpkins and what costume they wanted to wear on Halloween. If that was not enough excitement, we could hear the kids yelling up and down the street saying "trick or treat" as they came up to the doors of the many houses with their lights on, handing out candy on Halloween.

Our church family had the opportunity to give out treats to the local children and their families as they walked by the church on Halloween, and we were given a big handfull of sugar-free treats that put smiles on the congregation and on the faces of young families who had their children baptized in the month of October. If you think back, almost every week in October we had children being baptized and both their families and the church stating they would be willing to help raise these newest members of the church in a Godly manner. In an effort to gain some of that same excitement I am asking all of the young adults and families to reserve on your calendar Saturday, December 7th from 1:00pm-2:30pm to gather at the church to help me understand what you would want from the church. This could be; opportunities to have fellowship outside the church, some type of mission work, or maybe you are willing to lead a new idea that you

would like to see offered at the church?
Childcare and fun holiday activities for the children will be provided.
If you have any questions or ideas mail me at
pastorshaun@hollypc.org.

~Pastor Shaun



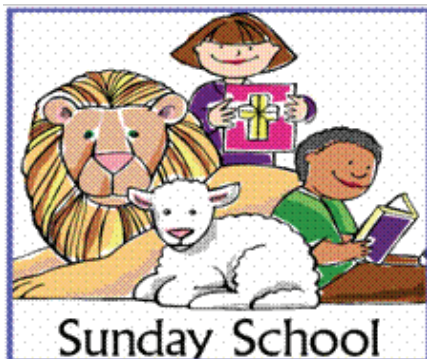
STEWARDSHIP NEWS

HPC members & family will soon be receiving a letter from the church along with an annual pledge card. This is the time of year when we consider what God is calling each of us to do in support of the ministry and programs of the church. We will contemplate our gifts of time, talents and finances, and then make a pledge to bring with us to our Commitment Service on Sunday, November 17th.

We will celebrate our congregations commitment to continue God's work with a potluck lunch following worship.

Year-to-date (September 30th, 2013) Income/Expenses Holly Presbyterian Church Financial Summary:

September 2013 Income	\$ 12,187.67	YTD Income	\$ 89,815.68
September 2013 Expenses	\$ 9,473.30	YTD Expenses	\$ 105,216.92



Sunday School & Study Opportunities!

The Gathering Place for Kids
Sunday at 9:30 am

Our kids program uses the Spark Activate Faith curriculum and

is a Workshop Rotation modeled classroom where our kids get to explore their faith through, art, science, cooking, computers, games, stories, music & drama!

[Register your family and Check it out!](http://hollypc.sparksundayschool.org)
<http://hollypc.sparksundayschool.org>

Adult Sunday School 2013-2014

Sunday at 9:30 am

We welcome Barb Brown back to the leadership of this study with great joy! It is going to be a great way to start your week! Comparative Religions will be our topic for the coming year. How does one religious tradition often differ so markedly from another? This is something we will be studying since religions, which form the foundations for a wide range of moral codes, can and do influence the actions of nations on the world stage, of which we are a part.

Wednesday Lunch Bunch!

12:00 noon

_The Lunch Bunch meets at noon on Wednesday for an informal Bible study. This fall's focus will be on the Book of Genesis. Charlee Litten has agreed to continue as the leader for this study so we know it will be as great as it was last year! (Thanks Charlee!). Everyone is welcome to attend when ever they are able, just bring your bible and little something for your lunch!

NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS

For anyone interested in exploring membership at Holly Presbyterian Church we will offer a new members class after the first of the new year. If you are interested in joining us

please contact the church office by calling 248-634-9494 or sending an email to office@hollypc.org

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

"Abiding Hope"

Each month the women of the church are invited to gather together with Rev. Sharlyn as she leads the Horizon's 2013-2014 Bible Study "Abiding Hope". We will meet the first Thursday of each month to explore the word of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy. The Study Materials are available for a cost of \$10 if you do not already subscribe to Horizon's Magazine. Please let Laura parker know if you need to have a book ordered for you. November 7th is our next study, we hope you will join us.

November Calendar of Events



- Nov 2 PRIVATE PARTY Fellowship Hall 12pm - 5pm
- Nov 3 TEENS FOR CHRIST MTG 9:00am
- SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:30am
- FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE HOUR 10:30am
- WORSHIP 11:00am
- AA 3:00pm
- Nov 4 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm
- Nov 5 TECHNOLOGY MTG (unconfirmed)

Nov 6 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
WORSHIP MTG 7:00pm
PROPERTY MTG 7:00pm

Nov 7 PRESBYTERIAN WOMENS STUDY 6:30pm
AYSO MTG 7:00pm

Nov 8 BABY PANTRY 10am - 12pm

Nov 9 PRIVATE PARTY Fellowship Hall 12pm - 5pm
SNOOP PARTY 7:00pm

Nov 10 TEENS FOR CHRIST MTG 9:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:30am
BOILER FUND BAKE SALE
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE HOUR 10:30am
WORSHIP 11:00am Memorial Dedication
AA 3:00pm

Nov 11 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm

Nov 12 STEWARDSHIP MTG 7:00pm

Nov 13 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon
CONGREGATIONAL CARE MTG 6:30pm
CHRISTIAN ED. MTG 7:00pm

Nov 16 BABY PANTRY 10am - 2pm

Nov 17 TEENS FOR CHRIST MTG 9:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:30am
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE HOUR 10:30am
WORSHIP 11:00am Commitment Sunday
POTLUCK LUNCH
AA 3:00pm

Nov 18 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm

Nov 19 OUTREACH MTG 6:00pm
SESSION MTG 7:00pm

Nov 20 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon

Nov 22 BABY PANTRY 10am - 12pm

Nov 24 TEENS FOR CHRIST MTG 9:00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:30am
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE HOUR 10:30am
WORSHIP 11:00am PW Thank Offering
CONGREGATIONAL MTG Following worship
AA 3:00pm

Nov 25 AA AND ALANON 7:30pm

Nov 27 WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH 12noon

Nov 28 THANKSGIVING DAY

Nov 29 OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

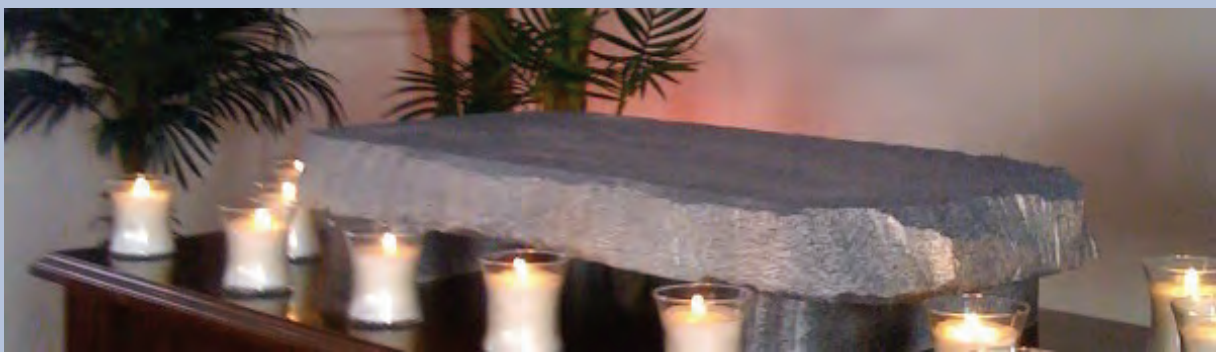
Praying for our church family

Prayers of Concern

- For those serving or who have served us and our country in military service.
- For all those who are in nursing homes, shut in, or seeking comfort and healing.
- For Dan Nash, Beatrice Johnston, Harriett Striggow, Gladys Havenstein, Judy and Paul Blackburn, Ethel Weithoff, Marjorie Smith, Nicole Conway, Raelene (Hill) Morgan, and Irene (Bailey) Raby, Carol Ohlmacher, Grace Ranger, Brian Palmero, Fred Gates, Bill and Mary Renico, Keaton Banks, Dell Cruickshank, Dorothy Leaming, Marilyn and Jim Hope, Roberta Single, Butch and Linda Crider, Pete Olson (Jr), and the family of Carson Wallace,.
- For all those affected by the violence and war around the globe.
- For all those suffering as a result of the governmental shutdown, and for deeper integrity in our nation's leaders as they work to find a resolution to this situation quickly.

Prayers of Joy

- Thanksgiving for all the blessings we have received this year. May we continue to see the grace we have been given through Jesus Christ.



Prayer Requests from the Lake Huron Presbytery:

- The Rev. John Becker (Honorably Retired from Vassar-First) and wife Emily on Emily's recent diagnosis of leukemia. She is currently being treated at the Cleveland Clinic.
- The Rev. Mike Wilson, Sandusky, who is undergoing treatment for colon and lymph node cancer.
- Karen Banaszak, Certified Christian Educator, who continues to experience significant health issues mostly relating to MS.



Order Scrip this Fall!

Order November 3rd - Delivery November 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 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!!

ALL NEW VG'S SHARE PROGRAM!

VG's grocery store has a new program that will replace the Community Share Points Program we are familiar with now. Please click on the link below to see how you can participate going forward. If you have further questions please see Jan Bradshaw.



[Click Here!](#)

Property Update: A HUGE THANK YOU . . .



To those who came and participated in the All Church Fall Clean-up and Work Day!

While a lot of important projects were completed we still have a number of tasks that need to be taken care of soon. We had 10 people come on Saturday and they did as much as they could however, the following items still need to be finished:

- Yard work (flower beds cut back for winter)
- Stumps (holes drilled and rock/epsom salt added)
- Play Yard (rock salt spread to prevent weeds from taking over in the spring)
- Clean light fixtures

- Exterior walk ways - Sweep
- Parking Lot (remove grass from and fill cracks)
- Old utility sink in boiler room (disconnect & remove)
- Windows washed.

Can you help? If so. . . When?
Are weekdays or evenings better for you?
Let us know!

HELP KEEP OUR BUILDING SAFE & SECURE. A friendly reminder to everyone that we all need to be sure that doors are being locked, and pulled tightly closed when leaving the building. We have had a few instances where doors have been found open or ajar. Thanks!



CHRISTMAS OUTREACH PROJECT

We will be doing our annual Christmas Adopt-a Family mission again this year.

We are taking entries from any of the Baby Pantry families who are interested and in need. From the entries two families will be selected by lottery on Sunday Nov. 17th. The gift tag boards will be displayed on December 1st. Gifts will be delivered on Christmas Eve.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Special Congregational meeting will be held

on November 24th, following worship, for the purpose of electing new officers, electing members at large for the Nominating Team and approving changes in the By-laws.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

FUN TIMES COMING UP!

Congregational Care will be hosting a
"Snoop Party"

Saturday, November 9, from 7-9 pm
in the Fellowship Hall.



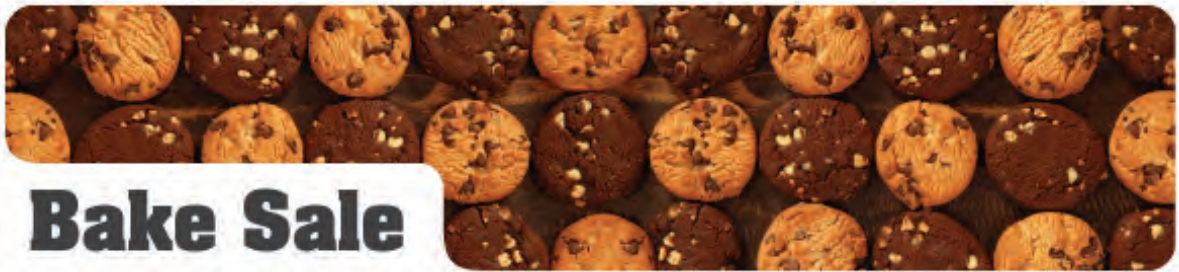
This is a fun evening playing a gift exchange game that requires a "white elephant" unwrapped "gift" in a brown grocery bag, or, you could choose to buy something under \$5.00. Also, bring an appetizer or something to snack on. Beverages will be provided. If you've never played, come along and bring a friend as well. Card tables will be needed, if you have one. Any questions contact Donna Miller 248-634-3450 or Beth Dryer 248-634-7827.



SCHWANS CARES FUNDRAISER!

We are taking part in a new fundraising opportunity, providing members & friends a chance to support the ministries and facilities of HPC by purchasing food through the Schwans Food Service. You will be able to order online or by phone, and have the groceries delivered directly to your home. The church will receive 20% of any orders

placed between October 20th and December 5th at: Our church's custom fundraiser page by [clicking here](#) or by calling 1-855-870-7208 and reference Campaign ID 2751 and Fundraiser ID 5066. An additional 5% will come back to the church for any orders that those participating place through October 20, 2014. Electronic Gift Certificates can be purchased as well, with 40% revenue back to the church. Instruction sheets are inserted inside the catalogs located on the narthex table.



BOILER FUND BAKE SALE! Sunday, Nov. 10

November 10th before and after worship in the Fellowship Hall. All 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 November contact people are Mary Renico 810-694-3281 and Judy Studer 248-634-8918.

In the Beginning News!



Parent Child Play Group *... resuming later this fall!*

Resuming later this fall

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.
- Pray for young families facing custody conflicts - may they find peace and resolution.
- Pray for those parents who are not getting enough hours on their work schedules.
- Pray for those parents who are seeking work.

UPCOMING DATES: Fri. November 8 11, 10am - 12pm
 Sat. November 16, 10am - 2pm
 Fri. November 22, 10am - 12pm

Items we need include: Diapers, Kleenex, wipes, lotions, baby wash & 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

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.

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
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

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn Gates

248.369.8893(h)
620.423.2671(c)

Assoc. Pastor of Young Adult Ministry: Shaun Hardimon

810.635.0586(h)
586.292.8772(c)