

HPC Connections

The Holly Presbyterian Church is a joyful family of faith that nurtures knowing, growing, sharing, and serving as followers of Christ within our church, our community, and around the world through peaceful and loving relationships.

In This Issue

Bake Sale

Healthy Church Check In

Our Missionaries

A message from Pastor Shaun

One Great Hour of Sharing

Sunday School

Happy Birthday!

Spring Clean Up

Calendar of Events

Praying for each other

Scrip Orders!

Easter Mission Project

Baby Pantry News

Missions Report

Session List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



Bake Sale

**Boiler Fund
Bake Sale!
April 12th**

Whether you want to buy this cake or bake one like it, get ready for our monthly bake sale! The table will be



This Love Changes Everything!

sale! The table will be open for donations before and after worship.

If you would like to donate baked goods and have a questions please call or email Margaret Perry (Contact Information listed in Session List at the bottom of this email)

Healthy Church Check In!

On Sunday, April 19th after worship. Nurse Karen will be available to check your

- blood pressure
- oxygen rate
- heart rate
- blood glucose levels

Get your vitals checked and be in charge of your wellness!

Note: These screenings are not intended to be a substitute for your doctor's care. Results are strictly for your information, and is not medical advice.



An Invitation from Our Friends Down the Street . . .

Holly Church of the Nazarene will be hosting a Mother & Daughter Banquet on May 9th, from 4:00pm - 6:00pm.

Robin Sullivan from WMUZ Radio, the Light will be the guest speaker. Tickets are \$20 Adults, 6-12 yrs old \$10, 5 yrs and under are free. Tickets include dinner and speaker. Contact Lisa Wissmueller at 248-807-8287 or lisalwiss@outlook.com

A reminder to all to check the building for unlocked doors, water, or

The journey of Lent is ending as we face the cross, and beyond, to the empty tomb. I'm so thankful that, even while we attempt to focus on the somber, serious themes of Lent, we know there will be great joy at the end. In a way, Lent is kind of like dying, and it should be. We are striving to die to our old ways and to rise up in the way of Christ - transformed, renewed and walking with new purpose.

I say that the experience of Lent is a bit like dying because even as we go through that somber, difficult process of dying - literally losing our lives to this world - we who are Easter People have faith that there will be great joy on the other side. I love the liturgy from our Book of Common Worship. In the Service of the Witness to the Resurrection, the commendation says, "You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all. We are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. This you ordained when you created us, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"

We started our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday with those grim words, "you are dust, and to dust you shall return." But now, we end with joy, knowing that because Christ is risen, we too shall rise; we too shall live! Alleluia!

Jesus said, *"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."* (John 11:25-26)

Throughout the Lenten Season, our theme has been ***This Love Changes Everything!***

Oh, how true that is! Because of God's great love for all humanity, shown to us through his Son, Jesus Christ, everything is changed. Jesus' death and resurrection give the promise that while we may die, we will live again forever with him. We have hope that we will be united with our loved ones someday. This love *does* change everything!

But, there is new life to be experienced even before we actually die a physical death. There are times when we are in such a low place, such a deep pit of despair, so much pain caused by sickness, or broken relationships, or the death of loved one, that it feels somewhat like the grave itself.

But because of the amazing love of God, the beautiful life and sacrifice of Christ, and the gift of the Holy Spirit we can be renewed, restored to a new life that is filled with joy and hope. *This love changes everything!* I pray you are experiencing new changes in your life!

Easter Blessings to You All!
Reverend Sharlyn

Reflections from Pastor Shaun....

Spring is officially upon us based both on the calendar and with the weather starting to break allowing the little flowers to push through the ground and the trees to begin to bud. At the same time we can now move more freely because of the warmer weather and the disappearance of the snow and ice around our homes.

With this change of the season this also gives us the opportunity to think about the people we know that have had to stay in their homes or are coming back from being snow birds who don't have a church. So, if you know someone who hasn't either been able to go to church in a while or doesn't have a church, invite them out for breakfast and a chance to feel the warmth of Jesus Christ and our church family this Sunday.

Happy Spring-Shaun

anything that could be pertinent to the building. It would be appreciated. We could easily prevent disasters if everyone takes an initiative to walk through when they are there. Thanks!
Property Team



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

April 5th, 2015

Around the world, people lack access to food, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) serves to help change the lives of people who are in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. One Great Hour of Sharing, received in the season of Lent, makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

Started in 1949, One Great Hour of Sharing is a long-standing ecumenical effort aimed at raising the funds necessary to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster. What started as an hour-long radio appeal has evolved over the years, varying from eight to 29 participating communions, and has grown to be the most participated-in Offering in the PC(USA). Today, projects supported by One Great Hour of Sharing are underway in more than 100 countries." (PCUSA.org)

Our Missionary Updates...



Univ. of Michigan 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.

[Keefer March Newsletter](#)



Operation Transit! CRU 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](#)

[Iobst March Newsletter](#)



NOTE: This important Special Offering will be collected on Easter Sunday, April 5th. Envelopes will be provided in your bulletin, or you may write "OGHS" on the memo line on your check. Checks should be made out to "HPC" and we will send one check to OGHS. Thank you!

News from the Office of the General Assembly PCUSA.

It appears that the latest amendment regarding the definition of marriage has passed by the majority of our presbyteries. In the Narthex of the church, on the small table beside the greeters, you will find a copy of the news article that spells out the amendments and their meanings regarding same-gender marriages and the change in the wording of the Book of Order. The article's heading just says Advisory Opinion, Approved Amendment of W-4.9000.

Rev. Sharlyn will be glad to discuss this and answer questions if you wish.



Finance Team Update

Ways to Financially Support Holly Presbyterian Church

- Place cash or check in the offering plate.
- Use your bank's online bill pay system.
- Use the electronic funds transfer from your savings or checking account, or use a debit/credit card on our website (www.hollypc.org).
- Make a gift of stock or other appreciated securities. And, remember the church in your will and estate plans.

Contact the A member of the Finance Team for more information on these types of gifts.

February 2015 Income and Expense

Budgeted Income - February \$ 8,283.63 YTD \$19,108.03

Budgeted Expense - February \$ 15,346.19 YTD \$31,670.17

Per Capita Update:

Our budget calls for \$1100 of the total \$2550 cost of per capita to be reimbursed by our members (\$25/member). As of the end of February, we have received \$300. Please consider contributing to this cost if you are able. You can note "per capita" on the memo line of your check, or make a notation on the "other" line of your offering envelope. Thank you.



Sunday School & Study Opportunities!

The Gathering Place for Kids meets during worship following the children's sermon!



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.sparkssundayschool.org](http://hollypc.sparkssundayschool.org)

Adult Sunday School 2014-2015

Sunday Mornings at 9:30 am

(Child Care provided)

"Comparative Religions" is our current topic. What do the basic tenants of the world's five major religions and philosophies have in common? We will be studying the way these markedly different belief systems have set up their moral codes, showing the great number of similarities, and a number of the differences between them, and looking at how each of the systems currently influences the actions of nations on the world stage.

Wednesday Lunch Bunch!

The Lunch Bunch meets at 12:00 noon on Wednesday for an informal Bible study. Charlee Litten is the leader for this study and does a great job of helping look at the scriptures in new ways and with great joy and humor! Everyone is welcome to attend when ever they are able, just bring your bible if you have one (We have loaners too!) and little something for your lunch! We are in mothers of the Bible and then three women who demonstrated bravery. Some series are longer than others in our series of women of the Bible.

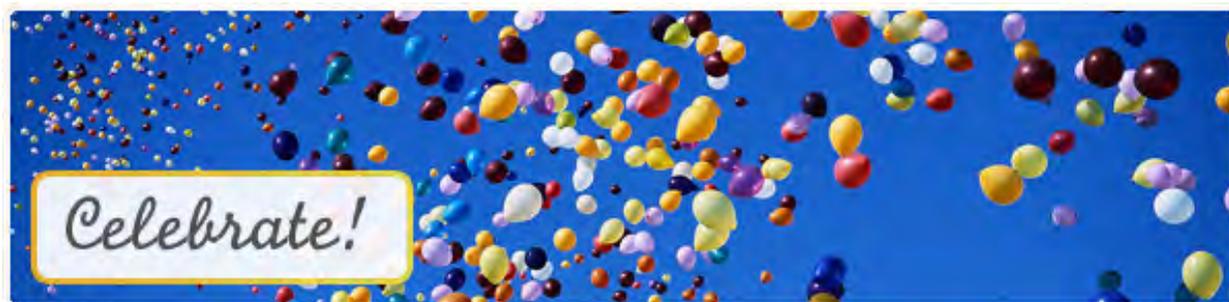
Presbyterian Men's Wednesday Bible Study

Come out on Wednesday's at 7:00pm for the Men's Bible Study. Currently the guys are selecting scripture and discussing how it relates to their lives. This is a great time of fellowship and learning. Randy Cook is leading. Great things are happening! Be a part of it.

Presbyterian Women's Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Our current study is called "Making Peace With Your Emotions." It is a Women of Faith Bible study. We will examine the idea that not only did God create us and give us emotions, but He feels them Himself too. And we'll look at emotions that are truly a gift-whether it's fear or anger or joy-and unpack their holy dimensions.

The study is led by Laura Parker and Karen Haneline. Join us for this wonderful time of friendship & learning. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall.



Jerry Litten ~ April 12th
Margaret Perry ~ April 13th
Gerry Jackson ~ April 17th
Cathie Killewald ~ April 18th
Sharlyn Gates ~ April 20th
Broady Cook ~ April 22nd
Kathy Henn ~ April 23
Jan Bradshaw ~ April 25th
Chris Cook ~ April 29th



Spring Clean Up!

Our spring All Church Work Day has been set for April 25th, from 9:00am-3:00pm. Come ready to spruce up our church for Spring. Bring a sack lunch.

Angels, roll the rock away;



Death, yield up thy mighty prey:
See, He rises from the tomb,
Glowing with immortal bloom.

Thomas Scott
"Easter Angels"

April 2015

- Apr 1 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
Lunch Bunch 12pm-1pm
Stephens Ministry Meeting 7:00pm (Fellowship Hall)
- Presbyterian Men's Bible Study 7:00pm (Community Room)
- Apr 2 Maundy Thursday Supper & Service
~Supper 6:30 pm (Mostaccioli provided. Bring a dish to share)
~Maundy Thursday Service with Communion 7:30pm
AYSO Meeting 7:00pm
- Apr 3 Good Friday Reflection and Prayer
~The Sanctuary will be open from 11:30am-1:30pm
~(Quietly come and go as you are able)
Community Service 6:30pm at Calvary United Methodist Church
~Reverend Sharlyn will be giving the sermon
- Apr 5 Resurrection of our Lord/Easter Sunday
Fellowship & Coffee 10:30am
Worship 11:00am
One Great Hour of Sharing Collection
No Gathering Place For Kids
AA 3:00pm
- Apr 6 AA & Alanon 7:30pm
- Apr 7 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
- Apr 8 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
Lunch Bunch 12pm-1pm
Presbyterian Women's Bible Study 7:00pm (Fellowship Hall)
Presbyterian Men's Bible Study 7:00pm (Community Room)
- Apr 9 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
- Apr 10 Baby Pantry 10:00am-12:00pm
- Apr 12 Adult Sunday School 9:30am
Fellowship & Coffee 10:30am
Worship 11:00am
Gathering Place For Kids 11:15am-Following Children Sermon
Boiler Bake Sale Before and After Worship
AA 3:00pm
- Apr 13 AA & Alanon 7:30pm
- Apr 14 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
Team Meeting 6:30pm
- Apr 15 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
Lunch Bunch 12pm-1pm
Presbyterian Men's Bible Study 7:00pm (Community Room)
Presbyterian Women's Bible Study 7:00pm (Fellowship Hall)
Newsletter Articles Due
- Apr 16 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
- Apr 18 Baby Pantry 10:00am-2:00pm
- Apr 19 Adult Sunday School 9:30am

Fellowship & Coffee 10:30am
 Youth Sunday Worship 11:00am
 Vitals checked with Nurse Karen after Worship
 AA 3:00pm
 Pastor Sharlyn on vacation thru 25th

Apr 20 AA & Alanon 7:30pm

Apr 21 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
 Session 7:00pm

Apr 22 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
 Lunch Bunch 12pm-1pm
 Presbyterian Men's Bible Study 7:00pm (Community Room)
 Presbyterian Women's Bible Study 7:00pm (Fellowship Hall)

Apr 23 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm

Apr 24 Baby Pantry 10:00am-12:00pm

Apr 25 All Member Work Day
 Adult Sunday School 9:30am
 Fellowship & Coffee 10:30am
 Worship 11:00am
 Gathering Place for Kids 11:15am-Following Children Sermon

Apr 27 AA 3:00pm

Apr 28 AA & Alanon 7:30pm

Apr 29 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm
 Lunch Bunch 12:00pm-1:00pm
 Presbyterian Men's Bible Study 7:00pm (Community Room)
 Presbyterian Women's Bible Study 7:00pm (Fellowship Hall)

Apr 30 Friends with Needs Outreach 12:00pm-4:00pm

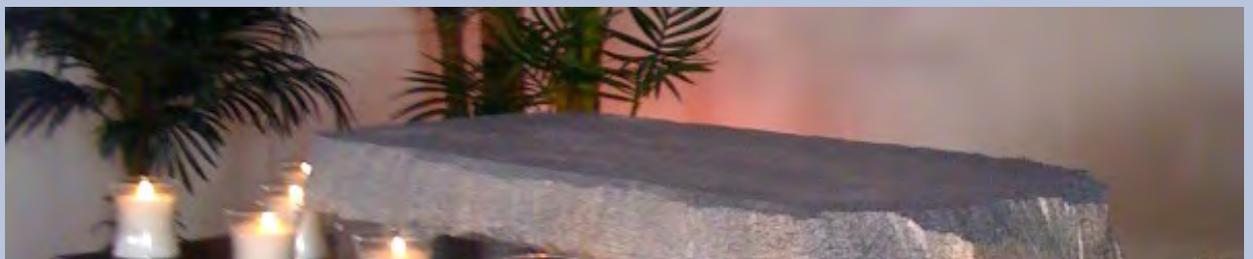
Praying for our church family . . .

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 Brian Palmero, Maxine Bolyea, Kennedy Todd, Pamela Lender, Ron Mikulak, Beth Krauss, Rev. Mark Knisley, Dan Nash, Dan Goodearl, Fred Gates, Marjorie Smith, Connie "C.J." Brummeler, the family of Shannon Cook, Harriett Striggow, Beatrice Johnston, Claudia Morton, Gene Stevens, Steve Yokum, Amber Leaming, Jeff Miller, Don Colegrove, Dylan Drews, Elizabeth Kici, Paul Burnett, Marti Dodge, Barb Brown, Pete Olson and the family of Raelene Morgan.

Prayers of Joy

- Prayers of thanksgiving for the generous support that our ministry, "In the Beginning" Baby Pantry, has received from our community.
- For the promise of warmer weather, flowers blooming and birds singing.
- Prayers of thanksgiving as our Florida members return home to us.





Prayer Requests from the Lake Huron Presbytery:

- The Revs. Rhonda & Dave Myers (Midland-Chapel Lane and Caro-First) who are in NJ saying their final goodbyes to Rhonda's mother who recently entered hospice.
- The Rev. George Gillette (Ronorably Retired) celebrated his 90th birthday last month. George currently serves on the presbytery's Personnel Team.
- Ben & Shelby Offrink, son and daughter in-law of the Rev. Jim Offink (HR) Ben has had a relapse of Hodgkin's lymphoma and is receiving chemotherapy. Shelby has been battling cancer for quite awhile. Both are experiencing significant side effects from their treatments. Shelby and Ben have two daughters, ages 3 and 1. We lift the entire family in prayer. There are a couple articles in the media about the family [MLife](#) article and [Fox17](#) that includes a video.
- Tom & Pam Brackbill. Tom is Pastor of Alma-First. Pam has Younger Onset Alzheimer's Disease. In addition to the cognitive issues she is also experiencing significant health concerns related to the disease. She is now under the care of Masonic Pathways.
- The Rev Ernesto Badillo, Board of Penions Representative is experiencing significant and serious health issues as a result of his battle with colon cancer.



Don't Forget to Order Your Scrip!

Order April 5th - Delivery April 12th

If you would like to place an order, you can put it in the offering plate, give it to Christine Cook or Vicki Lyles or click on the link below.

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](#)

Thank you!



Grace Centers of Hope Easter Basket Outreach Project Update

Our annual Easter basket outreach project to benefit Grace Center of Hope in Pontiac was a big success thanks to the hard work of Kenzie Nash, her fellow Outreach Team members, and the generous HPC family!

The Team was able to assemble 50 baskets total. Kenzie Nash and Mandie Banks made the delivery to Grace Center of Hope on Saturday March 21st. A big thank you to everyone who supported this project!

The HPC Outreach Team

In The Beginning News!

We are looking for new volunteers for the Baby Pantry Team for 2015! Giving your time or resources to this wonderful outreach ministry will



... bless you in so many ways! Contact Laura Parker if you are interested in supporting this ministry.

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 families expecting new arrivals this year. May they experience healthy pregnancies and safe deliveries.
- Pray for those parents who are not getting enough hours on their work schedules.
- Pray for those parents who are seeking work.
- Prayers for baby, James Grant Saucier, born this month with a cleft palette. May God bless him and be with him, and with his parents as they learn what is ahead, and learn to manage life with a newborn.

UPCOMING DATES: Fri. Apr. 10, 10am - 12pm
Sat. Apr. 18, 10am -2pm
Fri. Apr. 24, 10am - 12pm

Items we need include: We are low on many clothing sizes:

- Girls pants (12-18 mo, 24 mo, 2T)
- Girls shirts (3T, 4T)
- Boys PJ's (18-24 mo, 2T, 3T, 4T)
- Boys Pants (6-9mo, 12mo, 18 mo)

Kleenex, hand soap, wipes, & diaper rash cream are an ongoing need.

If you feel called to this ministry please see a Judy Studer, Christine Cook, or Laura Parker.

"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 Iobst Family- Operations Transit
Algeciras, Spain
(Both Working Under Campus Crusade for Christ)

Grace Centers of Hope- Easter Baskets
Pontiac, Mi

HPC Christmas - Adopt a Family
In the Beginning Baby Pantry

Forgotten Harvest Food Pantry
Holly, Mi

Friend with Needs Outreach

YOUR 2015 SESSION

Class of 2015

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

Class of 2016

Christine Cook	Christian Education	(248) 887-2012
Lori Goldsmith	Property	(810) 397-9722
Bob Killewald	Finance	(248) 310-2410

Class of 2017

Laura Parker	Outreach	(248) 245-5348
Margaret Perry	Fellowship	(810) 735-7692
Karen Haneline	Care	(248) 894-3489

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

Assoc. Pastor: Shaun Hardimon 810.635.0586(h)
586.292.8772(c)