



HPC Connections

Knowing, Growing, Sharing, and Serving

Summer 2015

July/August

Imitating Christ's Humility - Reflection from Rev. Sharlyn

*"If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus ..."*Philippians 2:1-5

Why did you become a member of the Church? I often think about this question, pondering what that means for people. I reflect on the same question in regard to those who say yes to answering the call to become ordained as an elder, meaning a "Teaching Elder" (a pastor) or a "Ruling Elder" (a lay person who is ordained and who serves on the Session as a church leader, along with the pastor.)

Why do we say yes to becoming an elder?

When we say yes to the Church - to officially joining a particular congregation, or to ordination and serving as a leader - we are promising to accept responsibility. We are putting ourselves in a place to serve God and others. It is an honorable place, not because we are better than others, but because we are servant leaders, as Christ was a servant to us. We are making a commitment to give of ourselves - our time, our skills, our financial support, our presence in worship and in study so that we can grow together as the people of God; as disciples of Jesus.

Being a member, and especially being an ordained elder, serving on the Session, leading teams in the ministry of the church, is a role that does not mean we are above others or that we should have special privileges because of all our good work. Our role is to put others first, and to be a role model for those who are just learning what it means to be a Christian - a follower of Jesus.

Think of Jesus for a moment - his character, his teachings. The apostle Paul wrote the words in the Scripture text from Philippians saying that we should have the "same mind as Christ." We should be like him in forgiving others, in loving others, in putting others interests first. We who are members of the Body of Christ (and that includes all believers - whether you are a member of a particular church or not) are called to be like Christ - humble servants of others in the name of Jesus Christ, whom we follow.

Let us then reflect on what it means to be a church member. Let us also consider what it means to be a leader, an elder in partnership with others, leading for the good of all. Let us be of the same mind as Christ Jesus, our Lord. May God bless us as we continue to serve together in the same spirit of humility that Jesus showed us.

May God bless us as we strive to serve Him and His people with love and humility.

A Word from Pastor Shaun. . .

Are you planning a garden this year? Will you be planting beans, corn, cucumbers or pumpkins or a few tomato plants? When you start planning your garden this year buy a couple extra plants to share with others so they can have some fresh vegetables this summer.

You would think that giving away a few plants wouldn't be a big deal but at the last General Assembly I met a man from the Detroit Presbytery that gives away tomato plants each year. For him and many other churches in the Detroit area this is their form of hands on mission. In 2013 the "Great Tomato Giveaway" distributed 2,000 plants to 40 churches. As a result these churches contributed over 10 tons of fresh produce to their local food pantries and community residents.

I challenge everyone if you are planting a garden to buy a few extra plants and give them away to people you know so they can have some fresh vegetables. If you are not planting a garden but putting in a flower bed buy a few extra flowers and put them in some small pots that could sit in someone window to add some beauty in their life.

Pastor Shaun



Calendar of Events
July and August
Regular Weekly Events:

Sunday

10:00 am Worship

3:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Community Room)

Monday

7:30 pm AA (Community Room) and Alanon (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday - Thursday

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Friends with Needs Group

Wednesday

12:00 pm Lunch Bunch

7:00pm Presbyterian Men's Bible Study Groups

Schedule of Additional Events:

Jul 2 10:00 am Worship Team meeting Dessalee's House
 7:00 pm AYSO

Jul 3 Independence Day Observed-Office Closed

Jul 9 6:30 pm Trim Healthy Mama - Community Room

Jul 10 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry Open

Jul 12 10:00 am Worship in the Park- with Potluck picnic to follow

Jul 18 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Baby Pantry Open

Jul 19 10:00 am Worship

Jul 21 NO Session Meeting this month-meet again in August

Jul 22 6:30 pm (Reserved Fellowship Hall)

Jul 23 6:30 pm Trim Healthy Mama - Community Room

Jul 24 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry Open

August

- Aug 6 7:00 pm AYSO-Community Room
 - Aug 11 6:30 pm Team Meeting
 - Aug 13 6:30 pm Trim Healthy Mama-Community Room
 - Aug 14 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
 - Aug 15 Newsletter Articles for September Due
 - Aug 16 11:00 am Healthy Church Check In
 - Aug 18 4:00 pm - 9:30 pm AYSO- Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm Session Meeting
 - Aug 20 4:00 pm - 9:30 pm AYSO- Fellowship Hall
 - Aug 22 8:00 am - 5:00 pm AYSO -Fellowship Hall
10:00 am - 2:00 pm Baby Pantry
 - Aug 27 6:30 pm Trim Healthy Mama-Community Room
 - Aug 28 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
-

Finance Team Update



Actual Income	May \$11,155.77	YTD: \$52,235.88
Actual Expense	May \$10,978.18	YTD: \$64,934.70

Christian Ed Team Update

The Wednesday Lunch Bunch will continue throughout the Summer months and play cribbage. Bring a little something for your lunch! All are welcome to come.

Presbyterian Men's Bible Study is meeting Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the Community Room (Lower Level). The current study is based on select scripture reading followed by discussion. The class is led by Randy Cook.



A Thank You Note from Pastor Fred

Dear Souls and Saints,

I take my pen in hand to reduce to words my thanks, my thanksgiving, my appreciation, my feelings and thoughts regarding the birthday celebration for me, Frederick E. Gates on Sunday, June 7, immediately following the worship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On that day there was given to me many birthday cards with outstanding sentiments. I also received a basket containing Krackle Bars, two very good cakes to share, plus there were crackers and sausage, cantaloupe and watermelon slices, shrimp, and other good food. There were several kinds of liquids (which I didn't get around to) like lemonade and punch.

One of my gifts was a sports shirt (Sport Tek, by Port Authority) with the logo saying: "Made in 1935, all original parts." Very nice! I have been wearing it to Snap and Holly Foods and to worship. I'll be sure to wear it

to the church picnic and worship in the park on July 12th. If you're not allergic to the sun, I hope you will be there. And, of course, my greater hope is that no one will be allergic to the SON.

Thank you all! "May the Lord be with you throughout the week, the year and the days to come as we await the dawning of God's new creation and Christ's coming again in glory." (From *Keeping Time in Christ* (2014 Presbyterian Planning Calendar))

Care Team Update

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.
- Beatrice Johnston, Amber Leaming, Barb Brown, Pete Olson, Christine Cook and Ron Randall (Marilyn Voorhies), William Woodard (Fred Gate's grandson), Ed & Barbara Wells and family as they grieve the loss of Ed's sister, Lena Bell Barbara.



Joys

- For the summer time that we have more time with our families and friends. We have vacations, lakes and pools to enjoy.

Prayers of Concern at Presbytery of Lake Huron

- Elder Caroline Johnson, Clerk of Session for Beaverton First, whose husband Tom has passed away.
- The Rev. Peter Russell, Honorably Retired, who recently had a health setback. He and his wife, Verna greatly appreciate all of the prayers lifted up for them.
- The Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia, Vice Moderator of the 221st General Assembly who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer and began chemotherapy two months ago.
- Ben & Shelby Offrink, son and daughter in-law of the Rev. Jim Offink (HR) Ben & Shelby are both battling cancer. They have two children, ages 4 and 1. Please lift the entire family in prayer.

- Tom & Pam Brackbill. Tom is Pastor of Alma-First. Pam has Younger Onset of Alzheimer's Disease. She is now under the care of Masonic Pathways.
- The members of the General Presbyter Search Committee as they continue their work of finding the right leadership for the presbytery.
- Rev. Ken Hetzel (Croswell-First) who is recovering from rotator cuff surgery he had mid June.

Healthy Church Check In!

Nurse Karen will be taking a break in July and return to see you in August on Sunday, August 16th 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.

Fellowship Team Update

After worship in the park on July 12th, there will be a potluck. Fellowship will provide hot dogs, buns, drinks. Please bring your own service and a dish to pass.



Property Team Update



Building Safety

A reminder to all to check the building for unlocked doors, water, or anything that could be pertinent to the building. It would be appreciated. We could easily prevent disasters.

Worship Team Update

Worship Team will be having a retreat July 2 at 10 a.m. We will be meeting at Dessalee Cook's home to discuss topics that pertain to worship. If you have any ideas or suggestions please join us. Any questions please see Dessalee Cook or call the church office.



Outreach Team Update

In The Beginning News!

We are looking for **new** volunteers for the Baby Pantry Team. 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.



UPCOMING DATES:

Friday, July 10th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, Saturday, July 18th, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Friday, July 24th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, Friday, August 14th, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, Saturday, August 22nd, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Friday, August 28th, 10:00am - 12:00 pm.

UPDATES!

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)

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

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 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.

Give & Take Library: We have a "Give and Take Library" to our baby pantry. We invite the entire HPC family to support this element by donating children's books (used or new).

Supporting our Missionaries



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

[Keefer June Newsletter](#) Link



Operation Transit!
CRU missionaries, Allen and DeeDee Iobst, continue to reach people in the name of Christ and distribute bibles.

[Iobst June Newsletter](#) Link

Personnel Team News

Our church has many teams that not only accomplish awesome tasks, but have great fellowship and laughter. Please consider joining one of our

teams.

Charlee Litten, Jennifer Chanter, Judy Studer,
Dale Huffman, Margaret Perry,



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

School Supplies-Holly Area Youth Assistance
School Supplies for Haiti

Our 2015 Session

Class of 2015

Charlee Litten

Personnel Team

(810) 694-0095

Dessalee Cook	Worship Team	(248) 634-5680
Jim Lyles	Clerk	(248) 634-4610
Walt Brown	Technology Team	(810) 629-1618

Class of 2016

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

Class of 2017

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

Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn DeHaven Gates
(248)369-8893(h), (620) 423-2671(c)

Associate Pastor: Shaun Hardimon
(810)635.0586(h) (586)292.8772(c)

See whats happening on our social sites.

