



HPC Connections

Knowing, Growing, Caring, Serving

April 2016 Newsletter



A Word From Reverend Sharlyn

Celebrating Easter©

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

1 Cor.5:7,8



The long journey of Lent is complete! The victory over death has been won in the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus, and in his resurrection. Alleluia!

Because Jesus lives, we have this great promise that we too shall live eternally with him; that even though these mortal bodies of ours will perish, we will not die, but will have eternal life. Not only are we promised life in eternity, however, we are also given new life right here in our present day, in our current situations. Like the caterpillar that has wrestled its way out of the dark confines of the chrysalis, into a beautiful butterfly, we too have wrestled our way through the

darkness of Lent, into the glorious light of resurrection; we too have become a new creation!

The Companion to the Book of Common Worship says this: "Easter is not simply the miracle of a dead person raised from a grave, but a celebration of power that can shatter death in order that people can freely serve the God of life ... Resurrection shouts "no" to everything in our world that works against God's will, and "yes" to God's victory. At the same time, Easter draws us toward a future salvation for which we wait with patience. History is marching to a final end. What Christ accomplished on Easter is a glorious revelation of the future, for resurrection implies a totally new order. "We will be changed," writes Paul (1 Cor. 15:52). The new age will transform the old age. "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Cor. 5:17). The Scriptures offer confidence in the power of God who raised up Jesus, and an invitation to trust God's grace for life and for death." (*The Companion to the Book of Common Worship, page 107, Geneva Press, Louisville, KY, ©2003*)

In the Easter Season - beginning on Easter Day and each Sunday through the Day of Pentecost - our *Book of Common Worship* encourages Christians to celebrate the Lord's Supper each time we meet. This is a joyous time when we come to the table with gratitude and great joy, as followers of our Lord. This Sacrament is a resurrection feast. It is a time to celebrate with thanksgiving what Christ has accomplished for us; a time to celebrate now, and to look forward to the Great Banquet in the future.

And so, the Worship Team, and the Session, have agreed that we will celebrate this great Sacrament every Sunday throughout the Easter Season and on the great Day of Pentecost. We hope you will come with open joy and grateful hearts as we share in the Feast that our Lord has given to us.

May the words to the song that is a favorite of so many in this church family forever ring true in all our hearts throughout this coming year: "Every morning is Easter morning from now on!"

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Peace and Grace!
Reverend Sharlyn

Information from our bulletins and calendar as well as special projects and disaster relief can be found on our website www.hollypc.org



A Message from our Associate Pastor

What kind of friend are you? Are you the kind of friend that just helps out when you want to help? Would you help if I called you in the middle of the night?

Would you come help someone if they called and said we need you to drop everything to come set up a babies room. Would you help if I called and said my basement flooded or I need to go to the hospital in the middle of the night?

My hope is if someone called needing help that you would say "yes" not because you would get anything out of helping or even because you are a Christian. I hope you would say "yes" because true friends help without asking why or a bunch of questions.

See true friends like Jesus Christ don't worry who you are, what people think of you, where you fit into the social classes of society or even how big or small the problem is because, he is there for all of us.

So my simple questions for you is, if you called on Jesus Christ and he said I am going to treat you like you treat others would he be holding his hand out or would he be walking away?

If your answer is that he would walk away from you, I am sorry to hear that he would treat you that way. But I would hope that you would start today to reengage this friendship and see you have a friend who is available 24/7 and who only will say "yes" when you call.

May you have peace in Christ,
Shaun

From the Lion's Den

I have only a few personal items hanging on the walls of my office, among which are a painting by my daughter, a plaque awarded me for service to the General Assembly, a lithograph made by a favorite confirm and, and a cross given me by ruling elder Russ Skinner, a friend and moderator of my former presbytery.



There are aspects to this cross that make it unique and deeply meaningful to me. The picture may be hard to see online, but you might notice that it is an imperfect creation. Russ followed the wood's natural pattern so that it dips and twists. And though it is an empty cross, not a crucifix, the twisted wood reminds me of the twisted form of the One who hung on it, and of our own imperfections which he took upon himself as he suffered and died. Of him Isaiah wrote,

He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering - and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces-
he was despised, and we held him of no account.
Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed. (Isa. 53:3-5)

But there is more to this cross than its unique workmanship. It was fashioned out of "beetle-kill pine" - reclaimed from one of the thousands of lodge pole pine trees in Colorado that succumbed to an infestation of mountain pine beetles. So, even the wood itself is a symbol of resurrection. Russ did for the wood what God does for us: takes what is dead or dying, imperfect or ugly, overlooked or discarded, and turns it into a thing of beauty with meaning and purpose. It's what Russ humbly shares as his own story, a life reclaimed from alcoholism who has helped dozens of others find new hope and a new life.

Without the cross, there is no resurrection. And without Easter, Good Friday is just a cruel joke. But thanks be to God who in Christ freely accepted the worst of human cruelty, and in so doing fully identifies with all who suffer; who in forgiving his executioners, forgives even our worst sins; and by whose resurrection, has conquered even death itself, and invites us all to partake of the new creation he has begun. Alleluia!

Dan Saperstein
Executive Presbyter



ALL MEMBER WORK DAY!!

Saturday, April 9th from 9am to 3pm. Please bring a sack lunch.



Regular Weekly Events

Sunday

- 9:30 am Adult Sunday School
- 10:30 am Fellowship and Coffee
- 11:00 am Worship
- 3:00 pm AA
- 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm TFC

Monday

- 7:30 pm AA & Alanon

Tuesday thru Thursday

- 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Friends with Needs

Wednesday

- 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Friends with Needs
- 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch
- 7:00 pm Presbyterian Men's Bible Study

Schedule of Additional Events

- Apr 5 5:15pm Confirmation Class

Team Meetings

- Information Technology 6:30pm-7:30pm
- Worship 6:30pm-7:30pm
- Personnel 7:00pm-7:30pm
- Christian Education 7:30pm-8:30pm

- Apr 7 7:00 pm AYSO

- Apr 8 Baby Pantry 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Apr 9 9:00 am - 3:00 pm All Member Work Day
Apr 10 Bake Sale after Worship!!
Apr 12 Confirmation Class 5:15 pm

Team Meetings

- Finance 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Care 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Outreach 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Property 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
5:15pm Confirmation Class
7:00 pm Session Meeting
Apr 16 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Baby Pantry
Apr 17 Nurse Karen-Blood Pressure Check after Worship
Apr 19 5:15pm Confirmation Class
7:00 pm Session Meeting
Apr 26 5:15pm Confirmation Class

Finance Team Update



Income February \$ 9,513.59 YTD 21,359.85

Expenses February \$14,507.21 YTD 30,213.10

Electronic Giving - It's so easy. Give it a try.

Go to www.hollypc.org, scroll to the bottom of the page "electronic online giving", and click on "give now". You will be directed to the Presbyterian Mission Exchange Website: it will show Holly Presbyterian Church. Choose either one time or recurring. Put in the amount, day of week, start date and end date. The rest is your information (i.e. name, address, credit or debit card information_____). Then press give now. You did it!!

Note: Presbyterian Mission Exchange sends you by email a notification of each contribution you make. Keep these for your records for tax purposes.

Thanks,
Finance Team
Bob Killewald, Vicki Lyles, Laura Parker and Christine Cook.

Christian Ed



Adult Sunday School-

Barbara Brown is leading this group in a study of the New Testament. This class meets Sunday at 9:30 am.

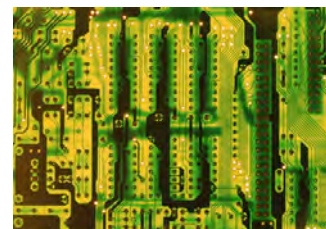
TFC (Teens for Christ) -

will be meeting Sunday evenings at 6:00pm -8:00pm. Through the end of the year, we are doing a new study, Echo the Story, that will allow teens to discover meaning and a personal identity in the Bible narrative through conversations, meditation, and creativity. If you have questions, please see Shaun Hardimon.

Wednesday Lunch Bunch-Wednesday at Noon. We are currently studying the Psalms. All are welcome to to join us. Bring a little something for lunch! A good time of fellowship and learning. If you have any questions, please see Charlee Litten.

Presbyterian Men's Bible Study Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall upstairs. The current study is based on select scripture reading followed by discussion. The class is led by Randy Cook.

Information Technology Team



The Information Technology Team members are
Walt Brown, Jim Lyles, Brian Parker and Sara Pettit.

Care Team Update



Praying for our church family & friends. .
Concerns

- For those serving, or who have served, in military service.
- Strength, renewal, and healing for: Barbara & Owen Hallberg (Dr. Teryl LaFalce's mother and stepfather), William Woodard (grandson of Fred Gates), Ed & Barbara Wells, Terry & Julie Parish and Angel Vliet, Fran Olson, Celia Pettit, Pete Olson, Bill Parks (brother in law of Ron & Kathleen Howe), Charles Jackson (brother of Peggy Ranger), Dale Huffman, Beth Krauss (friend of the Parker's), Pam Kratz (Carrie Duncanson's friend and neighbor), Mandie Banks, Brian Feldman, Paul Burnett (friend of Cathy Killewald), Troy Duis (Jim Lyles sister's former son in law) and Baby girl of Brianne Studer's friend.
- Peace and comfort for the family of Wayne McDonald, Maxine Bolyea and Vergith family (Mary Ann's Mother).
- Prayers for our members who are homebound or in Care Facilities.
- For Flint residents and the water crisis.

Prayers of Concern at Presbytery of Lake Huron

- The Rev. Ken Hetzel of Croswell First is slowly returning to work after his heart attack. He and his family appreciate your prayers.
- Ben Offrink, son of the Rev. Jim Offrick and Elder Sally Offrink whose is doing well in his battle with cancer. But it is still a challenging time for the entire family so continued prayers are appreciated. The Offrinks are very grateful for the support and love shown to them.
- Elder Sally Pomerory from Croswell First who is doing very well in her battle with cancer and has finished her last radiation treatment. Sally is the Clerk of Session for Croswell-First. She and her family greatly appreciate all the prayers that have been said for them.
- The Rev. Cathy Chang and family moved to the Philippines last

week to begin their onsite work as Mission Co-Workers.

- Michael and Rachel Ludwig, our Mission Co-Workers who are serving in Niger.

Nurse Karen will be in on Sunday, April 17th after worship.
Nurse Karen will be available to check your

- blood pressure
- oxygen rate

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.

Care Team

Karen Haneline, Loretta Weiss, Beth Dryer, Linda Burns, Jennifer Chanter, Jan Bradshaw.

Property Team

We are a smoke-free property. No smoking on the Grounds or in the Building at HPC.

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.

Thank you,



Property Team
Lori Goldsmith, Randy Cook, Broady Cook, Gerry Jackson, Tim
Burns, Tom Schettling and Ellen Paulson.

Worship Team

Weekly Attendance

Don't forget to fill out the blue fellowship book for our record keeping of your weekly attendance. Not only is the entry used for important data the church needs to collect for accounting purposes but it is used to learn visitors names, address corrections, etc. Thank you.

Also, Worship is in need of volunteers for the next several months. Open positions include substitutes for worship leader, ushers, greeters, and Communion servers (must be an Elder of the church to serve Communion).

If this sounds like something that interests you see Linda Burns for details.

Easter Lilies are available for Easter. You can sign up in the Narthex until March 13th. Single plants are \$15, Double plants are \$25. You can put them in memory of a loved one which will be put in the bulletin for Easter.

Worship Team
Linda Burns
Vicki Lyles
Gordie Bradshaw



Fellowship Team

Fellowship Team will have a meeting on April 3rd at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.



Coffee Hour sign up for the month of April 2016

Dates

Treats up

Set Clean up

4/3	Ellen Paulson Doris Colegrove	Ellen Paulson Doris Colegrove	Ellen Paulson Doris Colegrove
4/10	Colleen Spring Loretta Weiss	Colleen Spring Loretta Weiss	Colleen Spring Loretta Weiss
4/17	Reisa Hamilton Linda & Tim Burns	Reisa Hamilton Linda & Tim	Reisa Hamilton Linda & Tim

4/24 No one has signed up so far. Please sign up today!

We need two people for each position.

If you can help, please sign up today! Fellowship and Coffee is something we all enjoy!

Sunday, April 10th after Worship we will be having a Bake Sale.

Margaret Perry
Fellowship Team

Outreach Team



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, April 8th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, Saturday, April 16th, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Friday, April 22nd, 10:00 am-12:00 pm.

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)

We are in need of Diapers size 4 and 6 as well as wipes. Kleenex, wipes, ointment, lotion, body wash & diaper rash cream are an ongoing need.

If you feel called to this ministry please see 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.

Mental Health Prevention Group- is now forming. Meet with others who feel the need to talk. In turn becoming a listener. No electronic devices needed; Simple homefolk support.

VOICE-Vocalize Ones Innner Conflicts Effectively

For details call 248-634-5594, Marlo Davidson

The Outreach Team Laura Parker, Jennifer Chanter, Donna DeNise, Kenzie Nash, James Lyles.

Supporting Our Missionaries



Iobst Family picture 2015

Iobst Link: [Iobst March 2016 Newsletter](#)



Keefer Family picture 2014

Keefer Link : [Keefer March 2016 Newsletter](#)

The Outreach Team Laura Parker, Jennifer Chanter, Donna DeNise, Kenzie Nash, James Lyles.

Personnel Team News



A BIG thank you to Lisa Martin, Ellen Paulson, Dorothy Leaming, Charlee Litten, Loretta Weiss and Margaret Perry for filling in as Office Manager while I was off. I appreciate all your efforts. A special thank you to Laura Parker for answering any questions they had and all the odd things that come up. Please stop by the office I did bring back a little something for you as a token of appreciation for your hard work.

God bless you!
In His Name,
Sherry McLaughlin
Office Manager

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

School Supplies-Holly Area Youth Assistance
School Supplies for Haiti

Our 2016 Session

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

Class of 2018

Charlee Litten	Personnel Team	(810) 694-0095
Ellen Paulson	Clerk	(248) 320-0375
Walt Brown	Technology Team	(810) 629-1618
Linda Burns	Worship Team	(586) 482-3091

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)
