
HPC Connections

Knowing, Growing, Sharing, and Serving

July & August 2016 Newsletter
Volume 16, Issue 7 & 8



A word from Rev. Sharlyn

Finding Peace in the Midst of Chaos

I don't know about you but I have found myself feeling a little anxious and agitated lately, and I suspect I'm not the only one. You all watch the news and know what is going on in the world. I'm not going to list all those things here because I'm committing to a change for myself, my own peace of mind, and hopefully, I will have something valuable to say (with God's help) that might help others to feel some peace and calm in the midst of all this violent storm we seem to be in.

I joined Facebook several years ago because I found it a great tool for keeping up with my family who are spread out in different places. I would never really know much about my nieces and nephews and their children if it weren't for Facebook. It isn't the perfect way to have a relationship, of course. I would prefer actually getting together often. But that is not possible. So, with Facebook, I get to see pictures of family and know what they are doing in their lives. We get to communicate with one another where, if it were up to phone calls or letters, it probably would not happen. Unfortunately, social media has been used as a tool for political posts and hateful comments.

People try to outdo each other with their own critical ideas and if you read the threads underneath some posts, it is disheartening to find so many people judging one another and calling them ugly



names, making accusations. What is happening to our world, I wonder?

Well, I found myself being caught up in it all, and because of it I have felt that agitation; I have felt a lack of inner peace. And I am stopping it right now! I had a revelation the other day as I was caught up in looking for just the right post that would counter the one I had seen that was opposite what I think. I suddenly realized how angry I felt, how shaky and anxious I was feeling. And the revelation was that, out of all my Facebook friends, I doubt that anything I post will change even one mind. People already have their minds made up. It's more about stating loudly and sometimes obnoxiously what we believe, even if it intends to put those who think differently down. I'm not going to change anyone's opinion just because I post something, right? But as a trained pastor, as an experienced spiritual leader, I do hope that I have some ability to help people find some peace and feel more grounded. I pray that I might be a vessel of that peace and that, as I reclaim it myself, it will flow out to all of you.

Remember how Jesus appeared to the frightened disciples after they had witnessed his death on the cross? The risen Lord came to them and "breathed on them" and said "peace be with you." (Luke 24:36; John 20:21, 26). Finally, Jesus said, in John 16:33: "I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." (NLT)

Is it possible to have peace in the midst of chaos? If we put our trust in Jesus and keep our eyes and hearts tuned to him, we can feel at peace even with all that is going on around us. My commitment is to give you positive things to think on in this time. I will be writing and sharing on my blog and in some brief videos for the next several weeks about having peace in the midst of the chaos. You can read my blogs at www.sharlyndgates.com. It's been a long time since I've written there but I'm ready to write!

May the Peace of Christ be with you all. So be it. Amen.

Rev. Sharlyn



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

Some of the most recent Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is US Flooding '16, Earthquakes in Ecuador April '16, Burundi refugee crisis Flint water crisis, and the tragedy in Orlando.



July 2016

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday

10:00 am Worship

3:00 am AA

Monday

7:30 pm AA & Al Anon

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 Bible Study on Luke

7:00 pm Presbyterian Women Bible Study on Luke

NO Team Meetings in month of July

NO Session Meeting in July

Schedule of Additional Events

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Jul 3 | 10:00 am Worship & Communion |
| | 11:00 am Fellowship Team Meeting |
| Jul 7 | 7:00 pm AYSO |
| Jul 8 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry |
| Jul 10 | 10:00 am Worship in the Park with Picnic |
| Jul 14 | Sharlyn leaves for vacation thru 31st |
| Jul 15 | Newsletter Deadline |

- Jul 16 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry NEW TIME
 Jul 17 10:00 am Worship Pastor Shaun Preaching
 11:00 am Healthy check up Nurse Karen
 Jul 19 Youth Triennium in Indiana 19th thru 23th
 Leave here at 6:00 am
 Barbara McCallahan from Sen Stabenow
 speaking for FWN 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm all invited
 Jul 22 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
 Jul 24 10:00 am Worship Guest Preacher Ray Knudsen
 Jul 31 10:00 am Worship Pastor Shaun Preaching



August 2016

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday

- 10:00 am Worship
 3:00 am AA

Monday

- 7:30 pm AA & Al Anon

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 Bible Study on Luke
 7:00 pm Presbyterian Women Bible Study on Luke

Schedule of Additional Events

Aug 2

Team Meetings:

- 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Information Technology
 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Worship
 Personnel will not meet
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Christian Education

Aug 4

- 7:00 pm AYSO

- Aug 7 10:00 am Worship & Communion
- Aug 9 **Team Meetings:**
Finance 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Care 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Outreach 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Property 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- Aug 12 10:00 am -12:00pm Baby Pantry
- Aug 14 11:00 am Fellowship Team Meeting
- Aug 15 Newsletter Submissions due
- Aug 16 7:00 pm Session Meeting
- Aug 20 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
- Aug 21 Healthy Check up with Nurse Karen after worship
- Aug 26 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
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A Word from Pastor Shaun

Well, spring is upon us and summer is creeping right around the corner. During this season we are seeing people plant new flowers, while watching others bloom, as the grass becomes greener and higher.

School will be out for the summer as everyone reads this newsletter. For the youth, this will be an exciting time to have fun with friends and maybe even go on a vacation with their families. This also gives us time, as we are planting new flowers or just sitting back watching the clouds go by, to remember the importance of spending time with our family and friends. Over the next several months I would challenge every one of us to make plans to engage in activities that will create some type of interaction with those who are important in our lives. For some, this may be having a cook out, getting ice cream or playing your favorite game together, while others will enjoy spending time together by attending an event like the local baseball game or visiting the park.

Whatever it is you determine to be engaged with, make sure to be present in the moment and enjoy the time with your family and friends.

-Pastor Shaun

Worship in the Park

July 10th is Worship in the park. There will be a pot luck after with hot dogs, buns, lemonade, and condiments provided. Please bring a dish to pass and table service.



Finance Team Update

	Income	Expense
May	\$12, 953.78	\$11,248.91
YTD	\$57,040.46	\$64,243.17



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

From the Lions' Den

THE HOLY WORK OF DISAGREEING

Saturday June 19th, the 222nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) convenes in Portland, Oregon. The General Assembly is the highest council of the church, consisting of commissioners sent from all 171 presbyteries of our denomination. It is also the oldest, regularly meeting, democratically elected government in the world - beating the U.S. Congress by one year (although



since 2004 the Assembly has met every two years, not annually).

The two systems: Presbyterian government and U.S. civil government, grew up together, offspring of the same mother, the theology of John Calvin (tempered with 18th century British and French philosophy), as taught by Presbyterian minister and Princeton professor John Witherspoon. Witherspoon was not only the lone clergyman to sign the Declaration of Independence, he was also the principle architect of both the original Presbyterian Book of Order and, through his students James Madison and Alexander Hamilton, the U.S. Constitution.

Witherspoon taught theology, which included political theory. He believed that Calvin's tenets of Divine sovereignty and universal human sinfulness demand a republican form of government - that is, a government which checked the tendency to abuse power by limiting the reach of government and establishing "checks and balances" on its power. He also believed that as authority increased in a system of government, so should accountability. Higher levels of power in government must be exercised by increasingly broader representation of the people. For Witherspoon, unlike the European monarchs who claimed "the divine right of kings," power was derived from the consent of the governed, and should be exercised in deliberative assemblies by persons entrusted with discerning what is just and right.

It is important to remember, therefore, that both our civil and church government are designed to be tense and controversial. It is much *easier* to have a monarch settle disputes, or to enshrine a single point of view as law. But Presbyterian republicanism is very much aware that our human sinfulness will lead the former toward tyranny and the latter toward authoritarianism. No, political disagreement is a holy task, the way by which the Spirit breathes freedom, accountability, and reform into a system that left unchecked will lead to the death of freedom.

By this token, those with whom we disagree are not enemies, but partners. By actively (and prayerfully) discerning the will of God together, we make decisions in humility, knowing our proneness to error and the possibility that God could just as well be speaking through those "on the other side." It also means that when we disagree with what has been decided, we must also exercise humility, recognizing that God could be teaching us something through the voice of the majority.

There is much coming to this Assembly to spark controversy, from the morality of investing in fossil fuel producing companies to whether

we should adopt new rules for worship. One thing is certain - we will disagree. But worse than a vocal and even heated disagreement are the twin poles of tyranny on the one hand and apathy on the other. What Winston Churchill said of democracy: "The worst form of government ever devised, except for all the others people have tried from time to time," applies as well to Presbyterian General Assemblies.

Stated Clerk Ted McCulloch and I will bring regular updates on the Assembly to the presbytery. But please pray as well - not for a particular outcome, but for your commissioners and for a process that seeks and follows the will of God, and strengthens the witness of the church to the love and justice of Jesus Christ. And let us also pray for a church that is able to disagree while still recognizing the holy purpose of that disagreement in a community of forgiven sinners, including us.

Faithfully,

Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter

dsaperstein@presbylh.org

Christian Education

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

Wednesday's at 7:00 pm. We meet in the Fellowship Hall. From now to Advent we will be studying the Gospel of Luke. This is a class led class. Please join us. Each week we discuss the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday. (We do study, but we have a good time together as well.)



Presbyterian Men's Bible Study Wednesday's at 7:00 pm. We meet in the Community Room. We will be studying the Gospel of Luke from now through to Advent. This is a class led class. Please join us. Each week we discuss the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday. It is a good learning time and fellowship as well.

Wednesday Lunch Bunch Bible Study- Each Wednesday at noon. We will be playing cribbage throughout the summer months. You are welcome to join us. Bring a snack or light lunch. If you have any questions see Charlee Litten.

Technology Team

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

Care Team



Praying for our church family & friends. .
Concerns

- For those serving, or who have served, in military service.
- Strength, renewal, and healing for: Laura Parker, Aaron Mikulak (Karen Haneline's nephew), Keith Magnuson (Kevin Maguson's father), Shonelle Wyatt (Sherry McLaughlin's great niece), Barb Brown, Bob Killewald, Christine Cook, Carrie & Todd Duncanson, Charlene Clement, Diana Graham (Jim Lyles' sister), Paul Burnett (friend of Cathie Killewald), Gene Stevens, Tom Schettling, Rob Paulson (Ellen Paulson's former husband), Joan Davis, Kay Vander Kuy, Lois Caryl, Barbara Wells, Terry & Julie Parish, Angel Vliet and Andy Schram, Fran & Pete Olson, Celia Pettit, Charles Jackson (brother of Peggy Ranger), Dale Huffman, Mandie Banks, Barbara & Owen Hallberg (Dr. Teryl LaFalce's mother and stepfather).
- Prayers for Brian & Carla Ladd family who's family home burnt down June 13th.
- Prayers for our members who are home bound or in care facilities.
- For Flint residents and the water crisis.

Presbytery Prayer Requests

- Celebrating Ordination or Commissioning is Rev. Lindsey Carnes on 7/29 Co Pastor of Fenton First. Also Rev. Robbie Carnes on 7/29 Co Pastor of Fenton First. Congratulations!
- The Rev. Cathy Chang and family who are now in the Philippines.
- Michael and Rachel Ludwig, our Mission Co-Workers who are serving in Niger.
- All who are affected by the tragedy in Orlando.

Healthy Check up will be Sunday July 17th and Sunday August 21st.
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.

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 Judy Studer or

Cathie Killewald if you are interested in supporting this ministry. We are temporary doing while Christine and Laura heal.

NOTE: Saturday our hours have changed to 10:00am - 12:00 pm.

UPCOMING DATES:

Friday, July 8th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, Saturday, July 16th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, Friday, July 22nd 10:00 am-12:00 pm, Friday, August 12th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, Saturday, August 20th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, and Friday August 26th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

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

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

We are in need of size 4 diapers. Also we need Kleenex, baby



wash, diaper ointment, wipes and shampoo.

Any donations can be placed in the crib in the narthex, or financial donations can be placed in the offering plate with a notation or envelope marked "Baby Pantry". Thank you for your generous support.

If you feel called to this ministry or just want to see what it is about please see Judy Studer or Cathie Killewald.

"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.

Judy Studer, Cathie Killewald, Jennifer Chanter, Donna DeNise, Kenzie Nash, Laura Parker

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Property Team

I have a job for you:



- Clean and paint boiler room floors
- Sand and paint where water fountains were

- Power wash and stain stairs leading to lower level
- Scrape and paint railings at rear entrance.

Supplies and materials will be provided.

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.

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

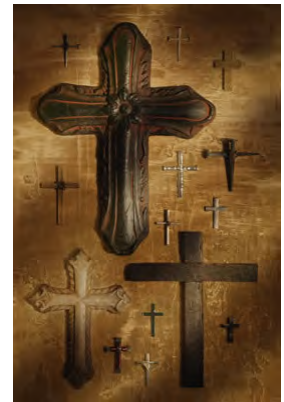
Thank you.

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. Open positions include substitutes and monthly positions for worship leader, ushers, greeters, and communion servers (must be an Elder of the church of serve Communion).

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

Worship Team
Linda Burns
Vicki Lyles
Gordie Bradshaw

Support our Missionaries

Iobst Family picture 2015
Josiah Phoebe, Thomas,
Deedee and Allen from Left to Right

Newsletter link: [May Prayer Letter](#)



Keefer Family picture 2014

Colby and Sarah Keefer
and family

Newsletter link: [May Newsletter](#)



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

Fellowship Team

Fellowship Team meeting will be on Sunday August 7th after worship
in the back of the Fellowship Hall.

**July 10th we will hold our annual Worship in the Park at 10:00
am. Please join us for worship.**

There will be a potluck after with hot dogs, buns, lemonade, and
condiments provided. Please bring a dish to pass and table service.

Thank you.
Fellowship Team
Margaret Perry

Personnel Team

Charlee Litten, Jennifer Chanter, Judy Studer, Dale Huffman

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)

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

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
Sara Pettit	Technology Team	(810) 730-8357
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)

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