



# HPC CONNECTIONS

## OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 18, ISSUE 10

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### The Adventure Has Begun!!!

Fall is an exciting time in the church for us. We are regrouping, starting new things, coming together after many of us have been gone some for the summer. We took a break from studies and Sunday School but now we are full on!

Charlee Litten and Barb Brown have great programs planned for our children and adults. Wednesday night Bible Study for both the men and women is off to a great start. Our teams are working on upcoming events and will be getting word out to you about all the opportunities for ministry, mission and fellowship.



This month my theme for worship continues to be focused on the adventure we read about in Genesis where God calls certain people to be the leaders of the faith – a faith that will last through eternity. We have learned about Abraham and Sarah and how, even at a ripe old age, they heard God's beckoning call, they stepped out of their comfort zone and started the journey in faith. And our adventure continues as we read the stories of Isaac, Rebekah, Esau, Jacob, Rachel and Joseph the Dreamer. We will explore the messages of each of these people of God and learn how they are like us in so many ways. Even more important is how God relates to us in the way God related to them so long ago.

I'm looking at other possibilities for Bible studies outside of the Wednesday night study. If you have something you would like to lead, or for me to consider, please don't hesitate to bring your ideas to me, or to Charlee as the Christian Ed Team Leader. We could do a focused women's study, or something especially for men, or a study on marriage, families, or aging issues. We could meet in homes or at a café or coffee shop. The possibilities are many!

Be thinking about how we can do more things in the community too. What are ways we can be visible and present? How can we invite people to come to our events? It takes all of us to make these things work well. But it isn't a big chore for anyone. Ideas, and a willingness to help make them happen, is most important. Are you willing to step out of your comfort zone and walk in a new journey together? To try some new ways of doing things? To explore the Scriptures with me? Wrestle a little (or a lot) with God's Word? To serve on a team or to help on Sunday mornings? We need everyone! We need you!!!

*By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.' Hebrews 11:8-12*

Come join me on this great Adventure!

Rev. Sharlyn

### October Anniversaries

Todd & Carrie Duncanson | October 25th | 33 years

Terry & Julie Parish | October 25th | 4 years

Congratulations and God Bless you on so many years together!

*Happy Anniversary*

*May your Marriage be blessed with  
Love, Joy and Happiness !!!*



## GETTING INTO THE WORD OF GOD



### *Worship*

Follow us on the Adventure of a lifetime. What will those mountains reveal? Come and find out on Sundays at 11:00 am.

*Adult Sunday School Class*

### **EXPLORING... THE LAND, THE LIFE AND THE MAN, JESUS.**

Gather your archaeology tools and get reading for an expedition of a lifetime.  
Sundays 9:30 am - 10:30 am



*Adult Bible Study (October read Genesis Chapters 27 - 45.)*

**THIS WILL BE. . .** A daring adventure into the great unknown. . .

**BE BRAVE, BE BOLD, AND JOIN US**

Wednesday nights 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

*\*Children's Sunday School*

### **3-2-1- WE HAVE LIFT OFF**

Come explore with us! Our first stop. . .The tent of Abraham. Sundays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

*\*Nursery provided*



## International Communion & Potluck

Sunday, October 4th - Join us for International Communion at 11:00 am. Following the service we will have a International Potluck. Please bring a dish to pass, indicate the country it's from and your own table service.





### October birthday wishes go out to:

Charlee Litten	Oct 1st	Rebecca Cook	Oct 19th
Carrie Duncanson	Oct 8th	Kenzie Nash	Oct 24th
Andy Schram	Oct 17th	Julie Parish	Oct 29th
Todd Duncanson	Oct 18th	Kevin Magnuson	Oct 31st

**God Bless you all on your special day!**

### Care Team

**Quote for the month: "Who I Am"** - I am filled with the desire to be more like You in every way. I want to feel compassion for others. I want to love my neighbor as myself. I want sympathy to turn my heart toward empathy. I want to follow Your ways and always know who I am---Your child.

*Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.* 1 Peter 3:8

### From: One Minute Prayers To Begin and End Your Day

**Baby Pantry: Upcoming dates when the Baby Pantry is open:** Fri, Oct 12th; Sat Oct 20th; Fri Oct 26th all from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

**Baby Needs:** We are in need of baby shampoo, baby wash, baby wipes, diaper cream and baby lotion. Donations can be placed in the crib in the Narthex. Financial donations can be placed in the offering plate with a notation on the envelope marked "Baby Pantry". Thank you so much for your continued support.

**Healthy Check up** - will be on Sunday, October 21st. Don't forget to see Nurse Char or Nurse Karen. Your health could depend on it.

Jan Bradshaw, Beth Dryer, Loretta Weiss, Karen Haneline and Tom Schettling,

### Finance Team

<b>Income</b>	August \$8,386.83   YTD \$84,093.41
<b>Expenses</b>	August \$9,451.75   YTD \$94,105.65



Finance Team: Vicki Lyles, Carrie Duncanson, Laura Parker, Rev. Sharlyn Gates and Bob Killewald



### Snoop Party - Mark your Calendar - Fun Times Coming up!

Fellowship Team will be hosting a **"Snoop Party" on Saturday, October 20th, from 7:00 pm - 9:00 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 Roberta Single at 248-634-4360.



**Regular Weekly Events*****Sunday******The Adventure***

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

10:30 am Fellowship &amp; Coffee

11:00 am Worship

11:00 am Children's Sunday School (Gathering Place)

3:00 pm AA

***Monday***

7:30 pm AA &amp; Alanon

***Tuesday thru Thursday***

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

***Wednesday*** 7:00 pm Men's & Women's Bible Study**Schedule of Additional Events**

- Oct 2nd ***Team Meeting-all are invited to attend***  
 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Outreach  
 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Information Technology  
 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Personnel  
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Christian Education
- Oct 4th 7:00 pm Painting with Friends - Laura Parker, teacher
- Oct 6th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Comfort Circle
- Oct 7th 10:00 am ***Fellowship Team Meeting***  
 11:00 am Worship - World Communion  
 12:00 pm Potluck - following Worship
- Oct 9th ***Team Meetings-all are invited to attend***  
 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm Care  
 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Worship  
 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Property  
 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Worship
- Oct 11th 7:00 pm AYSO
- Oct 12th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
- Oct 14th TBD Trunk or Treat
- Oct 15th Newsletter Articles Due
- Oct 16th 7:00 pm Session Meeting
- Oct 20th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry  
 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Snoop Party
- Oct 21st 12:15 pm Healthy Check up  
 Start bringing Rummage Sale Items In and Set up Tables
- Oct 22nd 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Set up Rummage Sale & Bring Items In
- Oct 23rd 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Set up Rummage Sale & Bring Items In
- Oct 24th 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Set up Rummage Sale & Bring Items In
- Oct 25th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Rummage & Bake Sale Begins
- Oct 26th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Rummage & Bake Sale  
 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
- Oct 27th 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Rummage & Bake Sale  
 12:30 pm - done Clean up
- Oct 31st No Bible Study  
 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Set up for Trick or Treating  
 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Trick or Treating





Holly Presbyterian is hosting it's first **Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 14th**. Mandie Banks is heading up this event. We are going to have 10 cars, we have 6 so far that will decorate the back of there trunk and put candy in for our little families. We will have games downstairs, donuts, cider and coffee available. If you are able to help in anyway, please contact Mandie at 248-820-0657.

### **Trick or Treating at Holly Presbyterian Church**

In a effort to keep ourselves visible to the children of Holly and our neighbors, we will again be hosting "Trick or Treat at HPC". Wrapped candy will be needed by Sunday October 28th and can be placed in the basket in the narthex. If you would like to donate for the purchase of cider, please indicate on your check in the memo box "Trick or Treat". Volunteers will be needed on **Wednesday October 31st** for **set up between 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm, and between 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm for the Trick or Treating.**



### **Acting in faith**

**Food Pantry:** In support of the important work being done in the community by our brothers & sisters in Christ at the First Baptist Church of Holly, we continue to collect non-perishable food for their Food Pantry. Place items in the collection tote in the narthex. Thank you for your support.

**Great Lakes Scrip Program** - Support our church by buying your gift cards from HPC. If you have any questions please see Vicki. Thanks for your support! **October Dates:** Card orders placed on **Oct 7th**, are available for pick up on **Oct 14th**.

**Do you shop on Amazon?** If so, please sign up on Amazon Smile. You can select Holly Presbyterian Church as your organization. Then shop as usual. A part of the proceeds will come to us. It doesn't cost you anything! It is that easy!

**Recycle** - Please bring in your ink cartridges and batteries. We can turn some of them into cash for office supplies.

### **Pray for Missionaries & Lake Huron Presbytery**

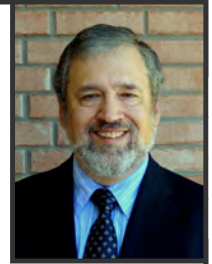
- Rev Glen Grant of Grand Blanc Kirkridge wife Debbie and family. Their daughter, Caitlin Ritenour is battling cancer.
- **Mission Co-Workers** -The Rev Cathy Chang and family who are serving in the Philippines. Michael & Rachel Ludwig who are serving in Niger.
- **Our Missionaries** - Colby & Sarah Keefer & family in Ypsilanti (Athletes in Action), and Allen & Sarah Keefer & family in Spain

See both lobst & Keefer's latest Newsletter by double clicking on [lobst](#) & [Keefer](#) at the beginning of the email.



## From the Lion's Den

Twenty years ago, the renowned church consultant Loren B. Mead forecast the "financial meltdown of the mainline church." He carefully charted trends in giving and membership among the traditional "establishment" churches in the U.S. and predicted that sometime in the next twenty years or so, these denominations would experience a collapse of their financial infrastructure.



It hasn't quite materialized to the degree that Mead predicted. Certainly, denominations are facing increasing financial pressures especially among the growing number of small congregations and at the higher levels of governance. That only makes sense: as congregations shrink, and overall giving decreases, a greater proportion of their finances must go to fund what they see as their principal functions: providing worship and pastoral care to their members. Accordingly, less money is available for the administration and mission of the larger church.

But Mead did not consider the resilience of many of these denominations, including the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). First, while membership has declined, per capita giving has actually increased, blunting the financial impact of the losses. In the PCUSA, per capita giving in 2017 was \$1111, up 5% from 2013.

Second, higher levels of governance have been surprisingly adept at adapting to lower funding levels. This has mostly happened through reduction in workforce and the scope of services offered. And while per capita assessments continue to increase, they are still a negligible expense - averaging about 2% of total church income (1.8% for our presbytery in 2017).

Third, the church has deployed leadership models that have adapted to the changing circumstances of congregations. The number of churches that maintain a faithful witness to Jesus Christ with part-time pastors, yoked fields, and in some cases, just pulpit supply has mushroomed. Many of these churches are finding creative ways to meet member needs and even develop new forms of mission with fewer people and fewer dollars.

Our own Presbytery of Lake Huron is in many ways the envy of other presbyteries. Our financial support of Presbytery ministry and mission is very strong. We routinely average between 98 and 102% of per capita payment. We have among the lowest presbytery per capita rates in the denomination. While mission giving has dropped some, in recent years it has held steady. And we have a well-managed portfolio of endowed and designated reserve funds due to the generosity and wise stewardship of previous generations.

Nevertheless, the national financial trends aren't changing, and they will catch up with us eventually. However, this isn't necessarily a bad thing, despite Mead's apocalyptic vocabulary. It is only a bad thing if we think the way things have always been is the way they always should (or must) be. The changes are largely a function of the disestablishment or marginalization of the church in our society. As Mead noted in *The Once and Future Church*, this is an opportunity for the church to reclaim the gospel in a new apostolic era, what I have called becoming "inside-out" congregations.

As many churches head into "stewardship season," it may become easy to despair about declining members and resources. Certainly, as individual disciples we are called to be generous in our giving for every good work (2 Corinthians 9:8) and we should not neglect that discipline. But we have greater resources of talent, ingenuity, and faith - not to mention the unlimited abundance of God - than we could ask for or imagine. There may be a financial crisis, but there is not a faithfulness crisis. And by

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God's grace and provision, crises can be turned into challenges that give birth to new, more faithful ways of being Christ's church in the world.

Faithfully,

Saperstein, Executive Presbyter, [dsaperstein@presbylh.org](mailto:dsaperstein@presbylh.org)

## Rummage & Bake Sale

It's that time of year again. Pull out your fall and winter items you are no longer using and donate them to Holly Presbyterian Church. Items may be brought in starting Sunday, October 21st. Then starting at 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Monday, October 22nd through Wednesday October 23rd items will be accepted. Please have all your items in by Wednesday at 12:00 pm.



**Sale starts: Thursday October 25th and Friday the 26th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and Saturday October 27th 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

A sign up sheet is available in the narthex to set up and work the sale. Also baked goods are needed.

## OUR PRAYERS, CONCERNS AND JOYS:

- Remember to *pray daily* for this church and our pastor.
- Strength, renewal, and healing for:** Jack Cotaling (Randy Cook's nephew), Jan Bradshaw, Linda Larmon & Susan Houghton (Mandie Banks' aunts), Elizabeth Kici, Terry Parish, Linda Burns, Ben (from Physical Therapy-Elizabeth Kici & Sherry), Jan Owens (Rev Sharlyn's sister), Julia Belyayeva-Hull, Norm Clement, Diane Scubiak (step granddaughter of Elizabeth Kici), Tammy Vally & Richard Perkins (both are neighbors of Elizabeth Kici), Joan Davis, Cathie Killewald, Linda Voll (Karen Haneline's friend), Mandie, Keaton, Hadleigh, & Josh Banks, Caroline Lucido (Brian Parker's sister), Peggy Ranger, Denny &, Beverly Glass (Elizabeth Kici friend's daughter), Dawn Spring (Colleen Spring's niece), Linda Voorheis, Linda Kelly, and William Woodard (Rev Fred Gates grandson).
- Comfort and Peace for the families of Dora Spangler, and Ken Hecht.



## Fellowship Team

- Join us for Coffee & Fellowship at 10:30 am

### COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR OCTOBER ARE:

Oct 7th	Open
Oct 14th	Loretta Weiss & Penny Schettling
Oct 21st	Roberta Single & _____
Oct 28th	Jan Bradshaw & _____

- Sunday October 7th** we will have an International Potluck after worship. Please bring a dish to pass and what country it comes from. Also, please bring your own table service.



## The Parish Paper - *Ideas and Insights for Active Congregations*

Grab your copy of The Parish Paper in the narthex or you can download it at the beginning of this email by clicking on PP October highlighted in blue [PP October](#)



### TEAM MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER

The times indicated are approximate and may vary. If you would like to join a team or see what it is all about, just come at the selected time to the church and see the Team leader. We always need input and ideas. **All are welcome.**

#### **Team Meeting October 7th**

10:00 am Fellowship Team - back of Fellowship Hall

#### **Team Meetings for October 2nd**

Outreach 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Information Technology 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Personnel 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Christian Education 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

#### **Team Meetings for October 9th**

Worship 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Care 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Property 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Finance 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm



Which one is you?

**Session meets October 16th at 7:00 pm**



### 2018 Session

#### **Class of 2018**

Charlee Litten | Christian Ed Team | (810) 694-0095

Ellen Paulson | Clerk | (248) 320-0375

Linda Burns | Worship Team | (586) 482-3091

#### **Class of 2019**

Laura Parker | Personnel Team | (248) 245-5348

Randy Cook | Property Team | (248) 221-9044

Bob Killewald | Finance Team | (248) 310-2410

#### **Class of 2020**

Cathie Killewald | Fellowship Team | (248) 310-2411

Jan Bradshaw | Care Team | (248) 459-1181

Donna DeNise | Outreach | (248) 634-3760

Jim Lyles | Technology Team | (248) 396-4695

Moderator

The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn DeHaven Gates

NEW (248) 390-0378