



HPC CONNECTIONS

APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 19, ISSUE 4

April Reflections from Your Pastor ...

My friends, April is upon us! I've started this article several times and then deleted it. It's a difficult one to write as I approach my retirement date on April 30th. My mind is full of thoughts and memories of our time together in these past eight years. I am reminded of the day you voted for me to be your installed, called, full time pastor. I was asked then to write my very first article to you and in that I expressed how excited Fred and I were to move to Holly and serve the congregation at HPC. I was truly excited then and have loved every minute of our time together. Through many ministry endeavors, joys and sorrows, struggles, floods, rebuilding, congregational retreats and other fellowship times – we have known many blessings. I have tried to give you my best and know that sometimes I have succeeded, while there were other times when I fell short. You have been good to me regardless. We have been good together and I know in my heart that my time with you was truly a call from God. I am grateful.



But before that April 30th date comes there is still much ministry for us to do. We are smack dab in the middle of Lent and approaching Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter. It is truly an important time in the life of the Church! Our study on Simon Peter is giving us new insights as disciples of Jesus. We look at this disciple who was faithful and true to our Lord yet who was a common man, a man with flaws, an ordinary person like you and me. This is the kind of people Jesus called to follow him and serve him. He did not expect his disciples to be well educated – no one went to seminary – or to be a person of means. Most of the disciples were poor. Many were fishermen. They were men who were impatient at times, hard headed, some had tempers, some wanted to be first, and they were slow to understand Jesus' teachings. Yet, they were called to follow, and so are we – just as we are.

As we make our way through the journey of Lent and to the cross, I pray that you are spending time reading the Word of God and reflecting on what your call to discipleship is. What are the gifts God has given you for serving Him and the Church? What is your deepest struggle in being a faithful disciple? What is the greatest joy you have in following Jesus?

As the time comes for me to retire, it will be a period of transition for you (and for me). You will need to be strong and faithful in serving because the Church needs you; needs your gifts, your financial support, and your talents. A church in between pastors is still a Church – vital in ministry. As we come to the great celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us also celebrate the many promises that come with resurrection: Christ is with us always; the Holy Spirit fills us with power; death (bodily or the ending of something important) is just a transition into new life.

*May the Lord bless you and keep you;
May the Lord cause His face to shine upon you
And give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
And all God's children said ... **AMEN.***

Reverend Sharlyn

April Anniversaries

Jerry & Charlee Litten | April 16th | 55 years

Walt & Barb Brown | April 21st | 57 years

Congratulations and God Bless you on so many years together!



**April birthday wishes go out to:
God Bless you all on your special day!**

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| Jerry Litten | April 12th | Sharlyn Gates | April 20th |
| Margaret Perry | April 13th | Broady Cook | April 22nd |
| Gerry Jackson | April 17th | Jan Bradshaw | April 25th |
| Cathie Killewald | April 18th | | |



Maundy Thursday - April 18th We will have dinner at 6:15 pm and our service at 7:15 pm. A signup sheet will be available to let Cathie know what you can bring for dinner. All are invited to attend

Good Friday, April 19th- There will be a service from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm for Reflection and Prayer in the Sanctuary.



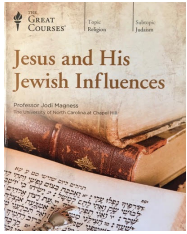
Acting in Faith

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! **April Dates:** Card orders placed on **Apr 7th**, are available for pick up on **Apr 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.



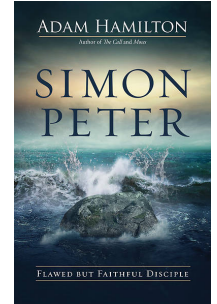
Adult Sunday School meets at 9:30 am and is now studying "Jesus and His Jewish Influence." The course, led by Barb Brown. We will not be meeting on April 21st, Easter Sunday.

Worship

GETTING INTO THE WORD OF GOD

Fellowship & Coffee starts at 10:30 am.

Sundays at 11:00 am.



Men & Womens Study

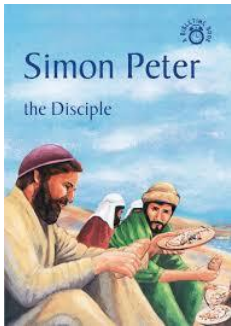
We continue the Lenten Study on *Simon Peter* but will not meet on Wednesday April 17th. Final Study is on April 24th.

Wednesday nights 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

**Children's Sunday School* - Sundays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

We will be studying *Simon Peter*

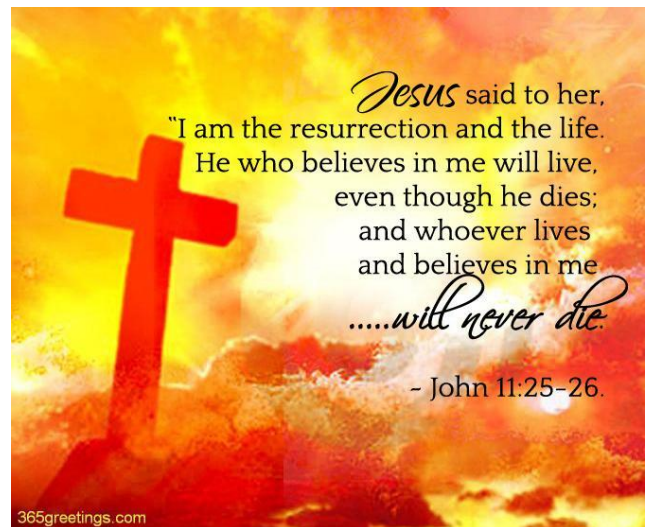
*Nursery provided



Care Team



Quote for the month:



Baby Pantry: Upcoming dates when the Baby Pantry is open: Fri, Apr 5th; Sat Apr 13th; Fri Apr 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, April 21st. Don't forget to see Nurse Karen. Your health could depend on it.

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

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Regular Weekly Events

Sunday

- 9:30 am Adult Sunday School - not on April 21st
- 10:30 am Fellowship & Coffee
- 11:00 am Worship
- 11:00 am Children's Sunday School
- 3:00 pm AA
- 12:30 pm Confirmation Class through April 14th

Monday

- 7:30 pm AA & Alanon

Tuesday thru Thursday

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

Wednesday

- 7:00 pm "Simon Peter" Study

Schedule of Additional Events

- Apr 2nd **Team Meetings - all are encouraged to attend**
 - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Outreach
 - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Information Technology
 - 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Personnel
 - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Christian Education
- Apr 5th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
- Apr 6th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Comfort Circle
- Apr 7th 10:00 am **Fellowship Team Meeting**
- Apr 9th **Team Meeting-all are encouraged to attend**
 - 10:00 am Freedom Work Opp (FH)
 - 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm Care
 - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Worship
 - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Property
 - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Christian Education
 - 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Finance
- Apr 11th 7:00 pm AYSO
- Apr 13th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
- Apr 15th Newsletter Articles and Info Due
- Apr 16th 7:00 pm Session Meeting
- Apr 17th NO "Simon Peter" Study
- Apr 18th 6:15pm Dinner - Maundy Thursday
7:15pm Service - Maundy Thursday
- Apr 19th 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Reflection and Prayer
- Apr 21 11:00 am Easter Sunday Service
- Apr 26th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
- Apr 28th Rev Sharlyn's Retirement Party after Worship
- Apr 30th Rev Sharlyn's last day

Finance Team

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Income | Feb \$ 9,406.43 YTD \$ 18,595.31 |
| Expenses | Feb Jan \$15,472. YTD \$29,708.99 |



Please note that these numbers do not include income or expenses toward the boiler, as that was not a budget item. The total cost of the new boiler was \$13,101. Consumers Energy bills during the time the boiler was out were about three times higher than usual because we had to keep the heat on (from the good boiler), as well as the running portable heaters and fans around the clock to keep the unheated portion of the building warm enough to keep pipes from freezing.

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

Fellowship Team



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

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR APRIL 14TH, 21ST AND 28TH
SIGNED UP FOR APRIL 7TH ELIZABETH KICI AND JAN BRADSHAW

- **Fellowship Team Meeting this month is April 2nd at 10:00 am.** All are welcome to attend.

Cathie Killewald, Pam Remillard, Mary Renico, Beth Dryer, Margaret Perry, Donna Miller, Colleen Spring, Roberta Single, Elizabeth Kici, Fran Olson

Pray for Missionaries & Lake Huron Presbytery

- **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 & Deedee Iobst & family in Spain.

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



KEEFER FAMILY



IOBST FAMILY

From the Lion's Den

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works... - Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

In my office are two fascinating works of art: paper roosters that were a gift of the Saginaw Korean Presbyterian Church (in whose building the Presbytery office is located). The roosters were a gift at their Lunar New Year observance, and are considered omens of blessing and good fortune. One member of the congregation made these for each member of the church! I was honored with these gifts, and astounded by the artist's creativity and generosity.



The roosters are examples of "modular origami," a traditional art form in which the objects are made only by folding paper without adhesives of any kind. Each rooster consists of about 400 folded pieces of paper meshed and nested in tiers, giving surprising density and strength to the product.

I appreciate these not only as works of art, or as cultural artifacts, but as a metaphor for the church. Like the individual pieces of paper, each of us is a unique creation crafted by a master artist, interwoven into a larger community of faith. Each piece of paper is essential to the whole - remove it and the larger body would not be complete. Together, we are a thing of beauty, a work of art, much greater than any of us as individuals.



Likewise, as each piece is fitted together without artificial adhesive, so we are knit and joined together in Christ's body by the invisible bonds of the Spirit. Just as the rooster heralds the coming of a new day, we as the church herald a new creation, a new life, a new beginning in Jesus Christ. And, as the artwork conveys blessing to the recipient, so also should the church be agents of blessing to the world.

In this season of Lent, as we meditate upon God's costly gift of love in Christ, through whom we are reconciled to God and united to one another, may we also consider ways in which we might give generously and creatively of ourselves to bear Christ's blessings to others.

Faithfully,

Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter

dsaperstein@presbylh.org



Easter Sunday April 21st - Starts at 10:30 am with Coffee & Fellowship and 11:00 am Worship with Communion. We will also be celebrating **Confirmation Day** for Max Muenzer and Sara Goldsmith. Join us as we celebrate our risen Savior. He live

Confirmation
Day

OUR PRAYERS, CONCERNS AND JOYS:



- Remember to **pray daily** for this church and our pastor and our incoming pastor.
- *Strength, renewal, and healing for:* Haley Haneline, Ron Schram (Julie Parish's Dad & Mary Renico's brother-in-law, Jake Vedeer (Kenzie Nash's friend), Darrell Strickler (Kathleen Howe's brother-in-law), Debbie Russell, Norm & Charlene Clement, Lisa Martin, Fran Olson, Joe Watkins (Laura Parker 's brother), Cindy Glenn (Elizabeth Kici's granddaughter 's mother-in-law), Helen Timko (Penny Schettling's friend), Joan Davis, Hadleigh Banks, Jim Pelton, Linda Larmon & Susan Houghton (Mandie Banks' aunts), Linda Burns, Jan Owens (Rev Sharlyn's sister), Diane Scubiak (step granddaughter of Elizabeth Kici), Tammy Vally (neighbor of Elizabeth Kici), Linda Voll (Karen Haneline's friend), Denny & Beverly Glass (Elizabeth Kici's friend's daughter), and William Woodard (Rev Fred Gates grandson).
- **From the Presbytery:** Rev Desiree Lawson (moving to Boston), Linda Living-Hawley (Tyrone Community Church) recovering from heart attack.
- *Prayers and comfort to the family of:* Pat Neuville (Retired Pastor Don Neuville's wife)



"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, And everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

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 January highlighted in blue [PP April](#)



TEAM MEETINGS FOR APRIL

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.**

Fellowship Team Meeting April 7th at 10:00 am back of Fellowship Hall

Team Meetings for April 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 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Team Meetings for April 9th

Care 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Worship 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Property 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Finance 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm



Which one is you?

Session meets April 16th at 7:00 pm



2019 Session

Class of 2019

Laura Parker | Christian Ed Team | (248) 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) 248) 634-3760

Jim Lyles | Clerk | (248) 396-4695

Class of 2021

Ellen Paulson | Personnel Team | (248) 320-0375

Tom Schettling | Worship Team | (248) 245-8810

Walt Brown | Technology Team | (810) 629-1618

Moderator

The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn DeHaven Gates

(248) 390-0378