



Holly Presbyterian Church Connections

November 2019 Newsletter | Volume 19, Issue 11

Finance Team Thoughts -

This is a wonderful time of the year in the life of our church. Recently we mailed out our annual request for your generosity in the form of your time, talent and finances.

It is exciting to be able to make your covenant with God for His ministry through us here at Holly Presbyterian Church!!

Prepare your generosity commitments with much prayer and let the Holy Spirit guide your decisions for His glory.

Your commitments in the past have made it possible for us to fulfill our mission here at Holly Presbyterian Church. During this time of transition our generosity commitment becomes even more important. Our future is certain, however. We will be conducting our mission and ministry to the community differently going forward. This brings to mind the importance for all us to brainstorm ideas for us to reach out beyond our walls. Any Session member will be pleased to listen to your ideas.

God honors our commitments and they also draw us closer to the Lord. Make your generosity personal between you and God. Let the Holy Spirit do great things through you and your commitment.

God bless you and God bless our church.

Income	September	\$8,255.52	YTD	\$94,789.54
Expenses	September	\$4,480.24	YTD	\$79,163.86

Your Finance Team



Don't forget to set to set your alarm clock back one hour before going to bed Saturday, November 2nd.

Memorial Sunday will be November 3rd. This is the Sunday we remember those Saints who went to be with the Lord this past year.



Birthdays for this month:

God bless you all on your special day!

- Don Colegrove November 3rd
- Beth Dryer November 19th
- Jim Single November 19th
- Eric Davis November 22nd
- Roberta Single November 25th



A Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 24th after worship. This is to elect new session members for the next term and to discuss the playground.

Stone Soup Lunch will be November 10th after worship, followed by rock painting! We'll hide these rocks around downtown Holly afterwards as part of the *Holly Rocks!* movement. Sponsored by the Creative Spirits group.



Hanging of the Greens — We will begin on Sunday, November 24th following the Congregational meeting. Contact Laura Parker at laura@freshstartfloral.com if you are able to help.

Holly Dickens Festival—Community Sing – Friday, November 29th at 6:00 pm at Holly Presbyterian Church in the Sanctuary. Join us for some good old caroling at our church. There will be hot chocolate and cookies as well. The parade will stop at 7:30 pm and pick up the people here as they walk downtown to light the tree and see Santa Claus.



From the Lion's Den

Matthew 25: Dismantling Structural Racism



In my last column I introduced the General Assembly invitation to become a “Matthew 25 church,” echoing Jesus’ story of the Great Judgment when those who have ministered to the hungry, thirsty, naked, homeless, sick, and imprisoned receive the blessing of the King. Jesus’ words in Matthew 25:40: “As you have done it to the least of these members of my family you have done it to me” has been selected by our Presbytery Moderator Chris Wolf as the theme verse for our Presbytery this year. We have explored what this means at our June and September Presbytery meetings.

The General Assembly invitation is part of an emerging denominational vision for mission. It includes three aspects: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty. Fuller information can be found on the Presbytery Mission Agency website: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/>.

My last column emphasized “Restoring Congregational Vitality.” In this column I will address “Dismantling Structural Racism.”

Combating racism is central to our calling as Christians. Jesus challenged discrimination and racial stereotypes in parables like the Good Samaritan (Luke 11:25-37) and in his interaction with gentiles such as the Syro-Phoenician woman (Mark 7:24-29). The early church broke down barriers of race and ethnicity (Acts 10-11) in bringing the gospel to “the ends of the the earth” (Acts 1:8). The Apostle Paul reminded the Galatians that in Christ “there is no longer Jew or Greek... slave or free... male and female” (Gal. 3:26-29). Presbyterians have a long history of opposing racism in society, and addressing racism is a core element of both our Confession of 1967 and the newly adopted Belhar Confession.

The Matthew 25 movement goes beyond mere individual expressions of racism to those embedded in social structures:

"Racism in the U.S. is a socially constructed system. Some people are advantaged, and others are disadvantaged, merely because of their skin color, ethnic identity or their ancestral background. Social power and prejudice have combined to treat people differently, whether intentionally or unintentionally. Some people are privileged while others are oppressed. As a consequence, there is unequal and inequitable access to resources such as money, education, information and decision-making power.

"Structural racism can show up in multiple ways, including:

- Housing discrimination that limits where people of color can live and steers them to rental markets rather than home ownership.
- Laws and policies that deny people of color access to quality education, employment and adequate health care.
- Food apartheid — areas deliberately devoid of quality, affordable fresh food.
- Mass incarceration and criminal justice systems that disproportionately target people of color with lengthier sentences, “stop-and-frisk” laws, the over-policing of communities of color, the school-to-prison pipeline, etc.

Environmental racism — the dumping of hazardous waste, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of access to clean water that results in a range of serious health problems in communities of color."

The website offers an outline of a 21-day challenge to understanding and addressing structural racism designed for individuals and congregations. It would be a great idea for congregations to use during Advent or Lent.

I am pleased to report that the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Bay City has voted to become a Matthew 25 congregation. I encourage your congregation to join them and hundreds of others in our denomination. In my next column I will address eradicating systemic poverty.

Faithfully, Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter, dsaperstein@presbylh.org

Pray for Missionaries & Lake Huron Presbytery—

All churches in transition

Our Missionaries - Colby & Sarah Keefer & family in Ypsilanti (Athletes in Action), and Allen & Deedee lobst & family in France.

Mission Co –Workers—The Rev Cathy Chang and family serving in the Philippines. Michael & Rachel Ludwig who are serving in Niger. The Rev. Dr. Lucy Der-Gerabedian who is serving in Lebanon.



Keefer family



lobst family

See both latest lobst & Keefer's Newsletter by double clicking on lobst & Keefer at the beginning of the email.

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday

- 9:30 am Adult Sunday School
- 10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship
- 11:00 am Worship
- 11:00 am Gathering Place for Kids

Monday

- 7:30 pm AA & Alanon

Tuesday through Thursday

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

Wednesday

- 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study - No class on Nov 27th
- 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study - No class on Nov 27th

Thursday

- 6:30 pm Creative Spirits Group



Schedule of Additional Events

- Nov 2nd 10:00 pm - 12:00 pm Comfort Circle
- Nov 3rd 11:00 am Memorial Sunday
Reception after worship
- Nov 5th **Team Meetings - all are encouraged to get involved**
NO Outreach
7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Personnel
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Information Technology
- Nov 8th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
- Nov 10th 12:15 pm Stone Soup Lunch after worship
Stewardship Sunday
- Nov 12th 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Freedom Works Opp.
Newsletter Articles Due EARLY due to Thanksgiving
Team Meetings - all are encouraged to get involved
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
- Nov 14th 7:00 pm AYSO

Nov 22nd 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
 Nov 24th 12:15 pm Congregational Meeting
 Hanging of the Greens - all week
 Nov 28th Thanksgiving - Office Closed
 Nov 29th Office Closed
 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Dickens Festival Community Sing



Remember to pray daily for this church and for who our transi-



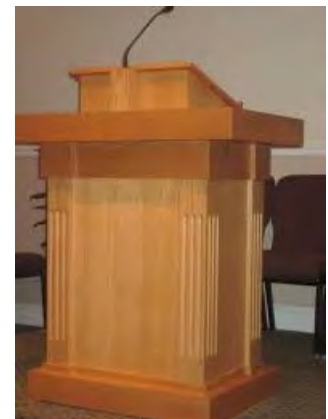
tional pastor will be, and the pastor coming to lead us into the future.

Strength, renewal, and healing for: Christine Chapman, Gordie Bradshaw, Joe Watkins (Laura Parker's brother), Betty Striggow (Penny Schettling's mother), Linda (Elizabeth Kici's neighbor), Jesse Ramirez (Carlee Olson-Ramirez's husband), Carla Rigsby (Penny Schettling's friend), Linda (neighbor of Elizabeth Kici's daughter Melinda), Peter Kici, Janice Jackson (Gerry's mom), Jake Vedeer (Kenzie Nash's friend), Cindy Glenn (Elizabeth Kici's granddaughter's mother-in-law), Helen Timko (Penny Schettling's friend), Jim Pelton, Linda Burns, Norm Clement, Jan Owens (Rev. Sharlyn's sister), and William Woodard (Rev. Fred Gates grandson).

Peace and comfort to the families of: Evie Gudith (long time Holly resident), Darrel Burgett (retired teacher, Holly High), Kim (loss of her husband, Margaret Perry's longtime customer.).

Coming to our pulpit very soon is:

Nov 3rd Dr. Rev. Ray Knudsen
 Nov 10th Rev. Don Neuville
 Nov 17th Dr. Rev. Ray Knudsen
 Nov 24th Rev. Theresa Jobe
 Dec 1st Pastor Shaun Hardimon
 Dec 8th Elder Lisa Naveen
 Dec 15th Elder Julianne Princinsky, EdD
 Dec 22nd Rev. Don Neuville
 Dec 24th Pastor Shaun Hardimon
 Dec 29th Pastor George Hockley



Fenton Ambassadors Concert

Coming to Holly Presbyterian Church on Sunday, December 8th at 7:00 pm. Please come and invite your friends and neighbors and get ready to be put into the Christmas spirit. Refreshments will be served. A free will offering will be taken.



Poinsettia Memorials

A sign up sheet will be available in the narthex for anyone who would like to order a red poinsettia in memory of a loved one, or would simply like to sponsor a plant for the sanctuary. The plant cost includes matching foil and ivory bow, and a flower card. The cost will be \$20 for a single and \$30 for a double plant.



Orders must be on the order sheet by December 3rd. Flowers will be delivered December 13th. Please mark your check in the memo box "Worship flowers". Thank you!

New Generation Seniors

Monday—Every Monday and **the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month** from 11 am to 1 pm come join the New Generation Seniors for Pickelball. Pickelball is a fun combination of ping pong and tennis. The court is located in the back pavilion at Lakeside Park (Holly Bush Dr.)

1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month—have fun coloring with water colors from 11am to 1 pm at Karl Richter Community Center (300 East St) in the Village Community Room.

1st, 2nd, and 4th Thursday of the month—converse with your fellow seniors, play games, color and more at our group meeting. From 1pm to 4 pm at the Karl Richter Community Center (300 East St.) in the Village Community Room.

3rd Thursday—enjoy delicious food during the monthly potluck. We will also have a bingo game to participate in from 12pm to 3pm at the Karl Richter Community Center (300 East St) in the Village Community Room.

Tai Chi—Want to train your mind and body to become healthier? Then come join Grand Master Dave Weatherly on Tuesdays at 11am to 12 pm or Master Instructor Mike Woodard on Thursdays at 6pm to 7 pm. Classes will be held at Sorenson Park and Nature Center (5142 E. Holly Rd.) A new session starts at the beginning of every month. Cost per person is \$49 per month. When you leave class you will feel rejuvenated, energized, and ready to tackle life with a great attitude.

TEAM MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER

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.

Fellowship Team Meeting—No meeting

Team Meetings for November 5th

NO Outreach

7:00 pm Personnel

7:00 pm Information Technology

Team Meetings for November 12th

6:30 pm Care

6:30 pm Worship

7:00 pm Property

7:00 pm Christian Education

7:30 pm Finance

2019 Session

Class of 2019

Laura Parker Christian Ed 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 Team (248) 634-3760

Jim Lyles Clerk (248) 396-4695

Class of 2021

Ellen Paulson Personnel Team (248) 320-0375

Tom Schetting Worship Team (248) 245-8810

Walt Brown Technology Team (810) 629-1618

Moderator Cassie Todd (248) 459-9334