

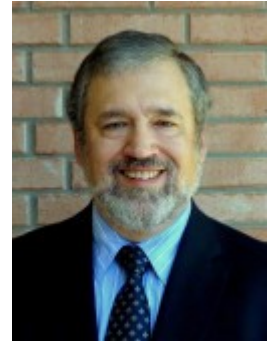


Holly Presbyterian Church Connections

February 2020 Newsletter I Volume 1, Issue 2

Per Capita From the Lions' Den, January 9th 2020

I am delighted to report that in 2019 we had 100% of our presbytery's per capita assessment paid by congregations. This is not the case everywhere. Our presbytery's record on per capita is among the best in the denomination and is the envy of other presbyteries. This achievement is more than just a number – it reflects our commitment to mutuality and shared mission in our presbytery.



Many members regard the annual per capita assessment as “dues” for being part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Some even think of the per capita assessment as church “taxes”. These are imperfect analogies. While payment of per capita is mandatory for presbyteries, the same is not true of congregations. While congregations have a “high moral obligation” to participate, our policy prohibits presbyteries from punishing sessions or congregations that do not fulfill their per capita obligation. Likewise, sessions may not require per capita contributions from members.

Per capita has always been an act of sharing. The earliest mention of per capita in the PCUSA is in 1734, and the earliest per capita program was the “Commissioner Travel Expense Fund” begun in 1806. The fund helped defray the cost of commissioners from distant presbyteries (then it meant Ohio and Kentucky) to travel to the meeting of the General Assembly. Essentially, per capita equalizes the expense of being a connectional church by sharing the cost of our denominational services in an equitable manner.

One of the reasons that we have such a good record of per capita participation is our presbytery's commitment to frugal stewardship. An informal survey of per capita assessments shows our presbytery per capita portion (\$16.80 in 2020) to be fifth lowest among the 45 or so responding presbyteries. Several per capita rates are over \$40 for the presbytery portion

alone. We are also blessed with well-managed investments and endowed bequests from generations of faithful and generous Presbyterians, that reduce per capita by generating over \$80,000 annually toward our presbytery budget.

But another, more important, reason for our solid record is that we have developed and embodied a culture of mutuality and community in our presbytery. While occasionally circumstances might require a church to postpone payments (as one congregation did this year, offset by another's back payment), the norm of full payment is an important expression of our commitment to each other. When one church fails to pay their share of per capita, they are shifting that burden to the other churches of the presbytery. Not paying per capita is the ecclesiastical form of the "dine-and-dash" prank we might have played on our friends as irresponsible teenagers but would never do as adults. As a presbytery, we are committed to honoring every dollar given with faithful, responsible, frugal, and accountable stewardship. As sessions and congregations, we are committed to contributing our mutually agreed portion of our shared mission costs.

I am grateful to serve a presbytery that has demonstrated such commitment to each other and to the work we are called to do together for Christ.

Faithfully,

Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter

dsaperstein@presbylh.org

FINANCE TEAM

Income	December	\$12,457.16	YTD	\$133,539.78
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Expenses	December	\$5,369.31	YTD	\$97,504.78
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Your Finance Team



We are in need of help in the following areas: Usher, Greeter, Communion Servers, Baby Pantry, Coffee and Snacks. Please see the sheets in the Narthex to sign up where you can help out.

We do a lot and if you do two things a month, that would take the load off of so many.



Happy February Birthday

Tim Burns	Feb 2nd
Ben Muenzer	Feb 12th
Judy Studer	Feb 12th
Dessalee Cook	Feb 17th
Johnny Dryer	Feb 20th
Penny Schettling	Feb 23rd



May God Bless You on Your Special Day!!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



Please join us for our annual Congregational Meeting on February 23rd following worship.

The annual report is available for review on the table in the narthex.



ASH WEDNESDAY DINNER & SERVICE

Join us on Wednesday February 26th at 6:30 pm for our Soup and Bread Supper. Following that will be our Service at 7:15 pm.

Please see the sign up sheet to bring soup and bread or see Cathie Killewald.

Pray for Missionaries & Lake Huron Presbytery—

All churches in transition

Prayers and comfort for: The Rev. Dr. Rhonda Myers father passing. She served as Pastor of Chapel Lane Pres in Midland. Also, The family of Katherine Naber and the congregation of Grand Blanc Kirkridge. Katherine was the Administrative Assistant for the church for almost 30 years.

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.

A graphic for a bake sale. The words "BAKE SALE" are written in large, colorful, stylized letters. Below the text are several images of baked goods, including cookies and cupcakes.	<p>Coming on Sunday, February 9th! Come hungry!</p>
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Coming to a pulpit near you:

- Feb 2nd Rev. Don Neuville
- Feb 9th Rev. Jennifer Rike
- Feb 16th Rev. Jennifer Rike
- Feb 23rd Elder Lisa Naveen
- Mar 1st Rev. Don Neuville
- Mar 8th Elder Julianne Princinsky, EdD



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 - Not on February 26th
7:00 pm Women's Bible Study - Not on February 26th

Thursday

6:30 pm Creative Spirits Group



Schedule of Additional Events—not happening all week/month

- Feb 1st 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Comfort Circle
- Feb 2nd 10:00 am **Fellowship Team Meeting - all are invited**
- Feb 4th **Team Meetings - all are encouraged to get involved**
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Outreach
7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Personnel
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Information Technology
- Feb 6th 7:00 pm AYSO
- Feb 9th Bake Sale
- Feb 11th **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
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Finance
- Feb 14th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry
- Feb 15th Newsletter Articles Due
- Feb 16th Healthy Check up
- Feb 18th 7:00 pm Session Meeting

- Feb 26th 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Soup & Bread Supper
- Feb 26th 7:15 pm Ash Wednesday Service
- Feb 28th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry



Joys & Concerns

Praise & Prayer of Joy that Allison Muenzer has been accepted to Princeton Theological Seminary in the fall with a full tuition scholarship. **Remember to pray daily** for this church and for who our transitional pastor will be, and the pastor coming to lead us into the future.

Strength, renewal, and healing for: Norm Clement, Jennifer Chanter, Hadleigh Banks, Denny Owens (Sharlyn Gates brother-in-law married to Jan Owens in hospice), Jesse Ramirez (Carlee Olson-Ramirez's husband), Peter Kici, Helen Timko (friend of Penny Schetting), Jake Veeder (Kenzie Nash's friend), Jim Pelton, Linda Burns, Jan Owens (Rev Sharlyn's sister), and William Woodard (Rev Fred Gates' grandson).

Prayers and comfort for the families of Don Colegrove (Doris Colegrove's husband), and Janice Jackson (Gerry Jackson's mom).

Our Missionaries - Colby & Sarah Keefer & family in Ypsilanti (Athletes in Action) U of M and Allen & Deedee Iobst & family in France.

Keefe family



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

Iobst family



TEAM MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY – You can also visit the website for times and dates.

If you would like to join a team or see what it is all about, please verify the meeting with the Team leader (see page 8) or other team member. We always need input and ideas.



Feb. 2nd at 10:00 am ***Fellowship Team Meeting***

Team Meetings for Feb 4th

6:30 pm Outreach
7:00 pm Personnel
7:00 pm Information Technology
Met Jan 28th Christian Education

Team Meetings for Feb 11th

6:30 pm Care
6:30 pm Worship
7:00 pm Property
7:30 pm Finance

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! ***Feb Dates:*** Card orders placed on *Feb 2nd*, are available for pick up on *Feb 9th*.

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.



Valentine's Day, also known as Saint Valentine's Day, originated as a church holiday on February 14th to honor martyrs of the faith - saints whose names were Valentine or Valentinus. It is believed that the first heart valentine note was sent by a Valentine who was in prison for a girl he loved. Valen-

tines notes have been recorded for as far back as the Middle ages. While the meaning and celebrations of Valentine's Day has changed, it has remained as a special day to shower with love those we hold close.

Valentine's day can create a variety of emotions for different people. For some it creates great satisfaction celebrating the love you have between you, your spouse, and your friends & family. For others it can cause feelings of loneliness. Whether you are single or in a relationship, let these Bible verses encourage you to celebrate, for God has unconditional and indescribable love for us. No matter your age or stage in life, Valentine's Day can be celebrated because of God's great love.

1 John 4:8—Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

John 3:16—For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Colossians 3:14—And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

John 15:13—Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

Genesis 29:20—So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love to her.

2020 Session: Fellowship Team: Cathie Killewald (248) 310-2411

Care Team: Jan Bradshaw (248) 459-1181

Outreach Team: Donna DeNise (248) 634-3760

Clerk: Jim Lyles (248) 396-4695

Property Team: Ellen Paulson (248) 320-0375

Worship Team: Tom Schettling (248) 245-8810

Technology Team: Walt Brown (810) 629-1618

Christian Ed Team: vacant

Personnel Team: Charlee Litten (810) 694-0095

Finance Team: Carrie Duncanson (248) 459-3426