



Holly Presbyterian Church Connections

June 2020 Newsletter | Volume 20, Issue 6

Dear Friends,

Now we can meet on Zoom on the computer on Sundays at 11:30 am. To do so, click on the link below. If you don't have a computer, call into the number provided. It is a chance for us all to see and talk with one another.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89778783372?pwd=L1hwS2YwcVdyQUxHTWFXR3pESU45QT09>

Meeting ID: 897 7878 3372

Password: 104655

One tap mobile

1-312-626-6799, Meeting #89778783372,1#,Password #104655 US (Chicago)

It was decided by Session that until something changes to make our holding church in the sanctuary safer, we have opted to keep our church closed at this time." We will let you know when we will be opening back up.

In His Service,

Sherry McLaughlin

Office Manager

Finance Team

I am sad to say that only \$25 came in for One Great Hour of Sharing. Typically, our congregation gathers about \$600 for this demonstration of Christ's love to others. It is not too late to contribute! Please make a note on your offering envelope or the memo line of your check when you send your gift to the church. And thanks to each of you for supporting HPC during this time. I miss seeing all of you!



Vicki Lyles

Income	April	\$8,547.51	YTD	\$29,197.10
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Expenses	April	\$5,120.46	YTD	\$30,195.97
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May God Bless you on your anniversary!!

June 1st Shaun & Michelle Hardimon 21 years

June 21st Gordie & Jan Bradshaw 45 years

June 24th Tom & Penny Schettling 48 years



Wishing the June birthdays God's blessing each day of the year!

June 6th Fred Gates
June 12th Larry Remillard
June 22nd Laurie Herrgott
June 23rd Marissa Cook
June 23rd Sara Goldsmith
June 23rd Elizabeth Kici
June 25th Ellie Goldsmith
June 26th Charlene Clement
June 30th Hadleigh Banks



Any man
can
be a father
but it takes
someone special
to be a Dad.

Happy Father's Day to all those Dad's out there.

From the Lion's Den

Over the past two months of sheltering in place, it has been easy to relate our experience of forced absence as a kind of exile. Like the leaders of Judah taken captive after the Babylonians conquered Jerusalem, we have been forced to “sing the songs of Zion” in a strange land of Zoom meetings and Facebook Live. And yet, most of our congregations have heeded the advice of Jeremiah to “Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile” (Jer. 29:7) and not only adapted to their temporary inconvenience but found new means of worship and service. For many, exile has been a time of creativity and empowerment to broaden our understanding of “church.”



Now, as the first wave of infection has crested and we are making plans to return to our spiritual homes, we face a new challenge. As Thomas Wolf famously wrote, “You can’t go home again.” For us, as for the Israelites, our “home” has changed. The Israelites returned to find the temple destroyed, the city walls in ruins, and the nation divided between the “heroes” who weathered the exile and the “commoners” who were left behind.

Similarly, when we return to our churches, there will be joy, but also a sense of dislocation. Social distancing? No passing of the peace? No congregational singing? Smiles hidden by face masks? As with the people of Judah, the task of rebuilding the temple and repairing the walls will take a long time. Like them, we too may never fully return to the spiritual home we remember.

Moreover, we may be faced with congregations divided between those who are eager to return to “the way things were” and those who are reluctant even to return to church for fear of infection. The people of Judah divided into parties of those who insisted on religious purity as a defense against change and those who accepted the new reality. When our churches return from exile, how will we fully include those who must keep away, who cannot be part of the homecoming? What will we retain from our experience of exile that will help us adapt to the new reality of being church?

One of the creative products of Judah’s exile came from the influence of Persian religions on the “pure” religion of the exiles. In Babylon, the exiles discovered, and over time incorporated, new understandings of how God

interacts with the world. They started seeing the world as the place of a spiritual battle between forces of good and evil. They began to see history pointing to an end that required a radical act of divine intervention to restore and glorify God's people. They started longing for a Messiah to usher in God's age of redemption. In short, without the experience of exile the Jewish people would not have been looking for the Christ. We, the church, are the product of exile.

We will soon be coming home. What will we have learned in exile about God's plan and purpose for us? How will we be changed in ways that enable us to see how God is working in the world? And, what will we do once we see it? The result may just be a new church.

Faithfully,

Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter
dsaperstein@presbylh.org

A Prayer for Inner Strength

Dear God,

Please give me the strength
to endure this situation,
and to find the blessings
and lessons that it contains.

Please give me the endurance
to continue ahead.

Please guide my thoughts,
words and actions,
so that I walk your
path of peace and love.

Amen





Care Team Quote of the month:

Stay safe, stay home. We miss you!

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

Outreach Team will be doing hopefully Summer Fun Bags for Traverse Place. These will replace the Easter Bags we were doing.

Here is what is needed: **deodorant, socks, little games, playing cards, crossword puzzle books, gum, all kinds of candy, toothpaste, toothbrush, shaving cream, shaving blades, nail polish and remover, shampoo, cream rinse, nail files, hair brushes/combs, wash cloths, Kleenex, body wash soap.**

We will collect our these items when we are back together.

Thanks,

Donna DeNise



Iobst family

Keefer family



Our Missionaries - The Iobst family (now in France), The Keefer family (Athletes in Action-U of M Ann Arbor).

See the latest Iobst & Keefer Newsletters by double clicking on Iobst & Keefer family at the beginning of this email.

Prayers from the Presbytery – All the other churches in transition, and Rev. Ken Hetzel; retired, who is battling cancer. Bruce Graham, husband of the Rev. Linda Graham, Davison-St. Andrews, who is recovering from a recent stroke. Elder Don Wixson, Commissioned Ruling Elder of Vassar-First, who is being treated for cancer.

Our Joys and Concerns

Remember to pray daily for this church and for who our new pastor will be.

Strength, renewal and healing for: Fran Olson, Reggie and Marna (Karen Haneline's friends), Rick Bugrynski (Margaret Perry's brother in law) and his wife Susan, Margaret House, Shar Hecht, Stan Iobst (Allan's dad), Barb Brown's sister KJ's former husband, Jim Killewald (Bob's son), Hadleigh Banks, Peter Kici, Helen Timko (friend of Penny Schettling), Jake Vedeer (Kenzie Nash's friend), Jim Pelton, Linda Burns, Jan Owens (Rev. Sharlyn's sister), and William Woodard (Rev. Fred Gates' grandson).

Please keep us updated on the people we are praying for. Thanks!

TEAM MEETINGS FOR JUNE – You can see page 8 of who is in charge of a team and contact them to see when they are emailing, chatting or zooming. ***Our teams are:*** Outreach, Care, Personnel, Worship, Information Technology, Property, Christian Education and Finance.



June 16th is Session Meeting at 7:00 pm. This will be a virtual meeting.

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! We will resume our regular schedule when we gather again for worship.

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!

Pastor Glenn Grant is having services on the Facebook website Kirkridge Presbyterian Church. Scroll down to the current date at 10:00 am and you can follow it live.

We also have **Rev. Therese Jobe** who puts out a sermon on Facebook. Each week it is a different address. If you go to YouTube.com and then type Therese Jobe. It will give you all of her sermons. Just click on the current Sunday.

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

2020 Session Contacts

2020 Session Term Ending

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