



Holly Presbyterian Church Connections

June 2021 Newsletter Volume 21 Issue 6

Meet and Greet

On Saturday June 26th from 1 to 4 pm congregants will be able to meet our pastoral candidate, Rev. Brooke Pickrell, husband Chris and son Mather. On Sunday June 27th, Pastor Brooke will lead the worship



On Sunday June 27th after Rev. Brooke Pickrell has preached there will be a Special Congregational Meeting for the purpose of voting to extend a call to the candidate and to approve the terms of call. We encourage all to attend this special Sunday event.

Welcome Back to the Sanctuary!

Starting at 10 a.m. on June 6th, we are excited to be returning to the Sanctuary for worship services! I hope you will join us.

We will be taking some precautions to keep everyone safe while the pandemic is still an issue. Windows in the Sanctuary will be open, with fans blowing air out of them. We are asking everyone who can to wear a mask (even those who have been vaccinated). Ushers will help find you seats that are a safe distance from other groups. We will wait until 15 minutes before worship service to begin seating people. And we'll ask you not to linger indoors after service ends; you can catch up with your church friends safely outside. We are even planning to sing one hymn at the end of service (with masks on)!

It will be good to return to some degree of normalcy. Over time, as the pandemic wanes and it becomes safe to do so, we will relax more of these precautions, but for now please help us by celebrating worship services safely.

From the Stated Clerk's Desk (April 12th)

It hit me the other day that I have spent more than half my life in this Presbytery, arriving to serve my first call at Taymouth Presbyterian Church in Birch Run back in 1989 (I was called to Saginaw First in late 2014). I believe there's only one other clergy person still in active service in this Presbytery who was here at that time (looking at you, Wally Mayton!).

As you might expect, there have been a lot of changes in those 32 years. And I could describe those changes in terms of the



churches that have closed and the church memberships that have shrunk and even how many fewer pastors we have serving in our Presbytery. Those kinds of statistics can be interesting, albeit not the most uplifting.

But I also have seen other changes in our Presbytery – changes that may be even more significant. It's taken too long a time but we have female clergy serving as pastor or co-pastor in two of our largest congregations. And while we are not perfect, we have more contact with and input from some of our smallest congregations as well. Some of those congregations had not engaged with the Presbytery for years and years. Those changes in who we are plus the additional churches that contribute to the life of the Presbytery make for better ways for all of us to serve Christ.

I'm not sure if this next part qualifies as "change" over the last 32 years but it is indicative of one of the great blessings of service here in the Presbytery of Lake Huron. I have met some of the most amazing, dedicated, joyful, challenging, and most of all faithful people that anyone could be privileged to know. And not just pastors but elders and members of so many different congregations. I would list some first names here – but I'd forget at least a couple that I would feel really bad about. And that is a wonderful, ongoing change that will continue. There will be new pastors, new elders, new members all bringing and sharing their gifts with the ministry of the Presbytery.

That's why I look forward to the changes that will be the life of our Presbytery both now and in the times to come. And no matter what those changes bring, we know that Christ lives and works in the people of the Presbytery of Lake Huron.

Yours in Christ,

Ted McCulloch

Stated Clerk

****With consultation with the Personnel Team, Dan Saperstein is taking a paid leave and will be working from home on essential functions of the Presbytery only, for the immediate future.**

Session Highlights – May 18, 2021

The IT Team is working on setting up live-streaming for worship services, including the ability to seat people in the Fellowship Hall (if necessary) and show the worship service on large-screen TVs. Several technical hurdles still need to be cleared to get all this working.

The Property Team held a workday May 15. A total of 22 people has worked on various tasks over the last month and on the workday. Completed tasks include:

The playground and surrounding fence were torn down and disposed of. The area was trimmed and mowed.

Entrance drive potholes were patched.

The exterior wooden staircase was repaired. (Note that it is rotting and will need to be replaced.)

Weeding was done all around the property.

Significant cleaning was done both inside and outside the building.

Many small repairs were completed.

Bids are being obtained for repairing the concrete steps in the back of the church and front porch.

The Worship Team and Session have been working on plans to worship safely in the Sanctuary in June.

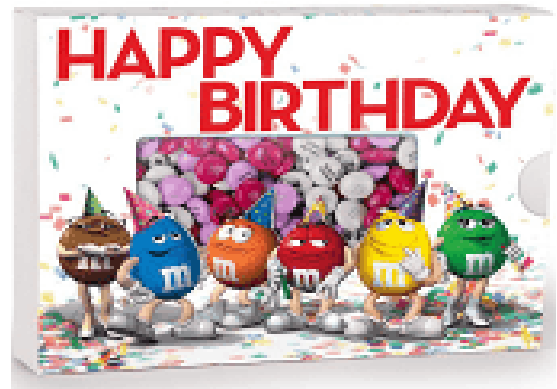
The PNC reported that a meet and greet will be held on June 26 from 1-4 pm to allow congregants to meet our pastoral candidate and family. On June 27, the pastor candidate will lead the worship service and preach. After the service there will be a special congregational meeting for the purpose of voting to extend a call to the candidate and to approve the terms of call.

There was a discussion regarding the security system. Walt Brown has been tracking down who holds keys to the church. A refresher course on setting up codes for various individuals and groups will be needed. Then signs will be posted, and we will begin activating the alarm system when the building is not in use.

Jan Bradshaw

June Birthdays

Larry Remillard	June 12th
Laurie Herrgott	June 22nd
Marissa Cook	June 23rd
Sara Goldsmith	June 23rd
Elizabeth Kici	June 23rd
Ellie Goldsmith	June 25th
Hadleigh Banks	June 30th (4 yrs. old)



May God Bless you and enrich your lives on your birthday and every day!!

June Anniversary



Shaun & Michele Hardimon | June 1st | 22 years

Gordie & Jan Bradshaw | June 21st | 46 years

Tom & Penny Schettling | June 24th | 49 years

Congratulations and God Bless!

Finance Team

Income	April \$5,835.37	YTD \$26,002.39
Expense	April \$5,124.68	YTD \$26,399.04

Finance Team Thoughts

We are now entering an exciting time for our church! We now have a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Pastor candidate to fill our part-time position. Although we will not have a pastor every day at the church we will have "our" pastor filling "our" pulpit and administering to us part-time. We as a church need to step up and fulfill more duties than we would normally with a full-time pastor. Our stewardship needs are now increased for administration and maintenance. Our time and talent input are so much more important with a part-time pastor. Also, our financial support is so vitally important now. When we had a full-time pastor we were losing money every month. Even with a half-time pastor we will need to commit to at least giving as though we had a full-time pastor in order to break even with the present giving. A half-time pastor does not mean a complete half the cost (due to required pension, medical, dental, etc.) Financially we need to see our future as if we had a full-time pastor to bring us back to where we can again achieve that full-time position. May God bless all of you and guide you in your decision for what ever stewardship support you choose for his glory and the work of our church.

Your Finance Team,

Vicki Lyles, Carrie Duncanson and Bob Killewald



June In The Pulpit

Rev. Zoltan Sutto—June 6th

Rev. Ray Knudsen—June 13th

Rev. Zoltan Sutto—June 20th

Pastoral Candidate, Rev. Brooke Pickrell—June 27th

followed by Special Congregational Meeting

All services are at 10 am and will be inside.



Have a safe Memorial Day Weekend! And take time to thank a Veteran!

The Parade will start at 10 am and we will be passing out water if you would like to join us.

Our Missionaries

Iobst family (now in France)



Keefer Family (Athletes in Action U of M Ann Arbor).



Prayers from the Presbytery –

- Ordination and Commissioning Anniversary wish goes out to Rev. Don Neuville on 6/19 he will have 55 years. You go Don!!
- Lift up the family of Elder Henry Kubin who passed away in April. He served as RE of Alma-Eastminister for several years along with his wife Mary.
- Pray for Rev. George Gillette who is under Hospice care at Candlestone Assisted Living in Midland.
- Our churches currently in pastoral transition.

Our Mission Co-Workers:

Lucy Der-Garabedian serving in Lebanon., Cathy Chang and family serving in the Philippines. Michael and Rachel Ludwig serving in Niger.

From the Care Team

Prayers of Comfort

- Peace and Comfort to the family of Ron Swift (Walt Brown's close friend) and his wife Cheryl.

Prayers of Joy ...

- Hadleigh Bank's doctor appointments have been extended to 6-month intervals, allowing this child some respite.
- There is no evidence of any auto immune disease or any other abnormalities associated with Keaton Bank's recent diagnosis of HSP.

Prayers of Concern ...

- For all those sickened and threatened by the COVID-19 virus here in the United States and around the world.
- For healing, strength, comfort and peace for: Maggie & Martin who are getting married May 28th (Alli Muenzer's friends). Both fathers were admitted to hospital Maggie's dad (Carl) for a bowel obstruction and Martin's stepdad (Felix) was admitted for a stomach issue; Cheryl Poole (Sherry's sister-in-law) fell onto cement stairs and broke her maxillary bone and will lose her front teeth; Melinda (Elizabeth Kici's daughter), who was diagnosed with breast cancer this week; Josh Banks, who has another epidural injection scheduled; Richard Murphy (Josh Banks' dad), who is now recovering at home from a mild stroke and uncontrolled blood sugar; Jim Pelton, who has been having health issues and is declining rapidly; Diana (friend of Cathie Killewald) who is facing health issues and medical tests; Jimmie Pernell (friend of Gerry Jackson) who is fighting cancer; Debbie Mikolowski (Penny Schettling's sister), who is undergoing chemo treatments with the hope of having successful surgery in the future; Mandie Bank's mom, Laura, has a neuro sheath tumor on her spinal cord and two ruptured discs (she will need a spinal fusion and the tumor removed); Mandie who has been diagnosed with fibromyalgia in addition to most likely systemic lupus and possibly RA (she will be starting an 8-week PT regime to help with the pain and weakness she's been having in her legs); Jim Killewald (Bob & Cathie's son) who has a lot of pain; ongoing prayers for Hadleigh Banks, Fran Olson and Terry & Julie Parish.
- For our members who are home bound, or in care facilities.
- For those who are suffering from natural and man-made disasters.
- For those serving, or who have served, in our military.
- For our country, its leaders and for world peace in a troubled time;
- For all the churches in our Presbytery that are in transition.
- And for our church, and our future pastor who is coming to lead us..





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