

# **Holly Presbyterian Church Connections**

## **October 2021 Newsletter**

### **Volume 21 Issue 8**



#### ***PROPERTY TEAM***

We are holding a church workday on Saturday, Oct. 2, starting at 10 a.m. (In the event of bad weather, our backup date is Oct. 16.) For planning purposes, it would be best to know in advance how many are coming. So please send Jim Lyles an e-mail at

jamesmartinlyles@gmail.com or give him a call at 248-634-4610 to let him know you are coming.

Bottled water and pre-packaged snacks will be provided. Please bring your own lunch. If you have specific tasks you want to work on, let Jim know that too. (If you don't e-mail/call ahead, you are still welcome to show up that day.)

For each task, if you need to bring tools or supplies those will be listed; otherwise, the church will provide items needed. We do recommend bringing work gloves for many of the tasks. Disposable, water-proof gloves will be provided for indoor cleaning tasks.

For indoor work, masks are recommended (but not required) for those who have been vaccinated.

#### **Exterior:**

1. Weeding & landscaping—CHECK WITH: Charlee Litten or Vicki Lyles.
2. Install gutter guard over the kitchen door—NEEDED: gutter guard, Broady Cook and Jim Lyles are going to see if they have some at home.
3. Kill weeds in parking lot cracks on the north side of the lot—NEEDED: herbicide, herbicide sprayer; the south half of the lot needs to be done later when there are no cars parked and people walking in the area.
4. Trim branches laying on the roof up front and on the east side of the building—NEEDED: ladder, pruning saw.
5. Dig up and/or cut off post stubs that are still sticking up above ground level (2 have been found)—NEEDED: Sawzall or similar cutting tool

#### **Upstairs:**

1. Spot clean carpets in Fellowship Hall & Narthex.
2. Reset tables & chairs in Fellowship Hall to the normal configuration.
3. Check paper towels in bathrooms & refill as needed.

4. Replace exterior door in kitchen—CHECK WITH: Broady Cook; he will likely bring his own tools for this task.
5. In the Sanctuary, clean the ceiling fan blades—NEEDED: a brush that attaches to the church's extendible pole; Gerry Jackson may have one.
6. Clean cobwebs at church entrances and where needed throughout the building (also check downstairs)—NEEDED: rags to fasten to a broom or pole.
7. Look at the church's vacuum cleaners. Eliminate bad ones; clean filters for the good ones.

### **Downstairs:**

1. Remove A/C window units from Office and Pastor's Study—CHECK WITH: Jim Lyles.
2. Water heater (east boiler room): drain a few gallons of water.
3. Check paper towels in bathrooms & refill as needed.
4. Clean up remaining clutter in the Gathering Place, leftover from the leak.
5. Replace the weatherstripping at the bottom of the Office & Community Room exterior doors—NEEDED: weatherstripping; Broady Cook may have some at home.

Sincerely,

Jim Lyles, Property

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### ***Outreach Team***

Come to church and get a mask with our logo. Spread the word, not the germs.



***Trick or Treating-*** Donations are needed for candy on Halloween. We will be collecting until October 24<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support.



### ***From the Lion's Den-*** Sept 8th

It was around 6:45 a.m., Pacific Time. My wife was up getting our daughters ready for school when she came into the bedroom waking me with the news: "A plane crashed into the World Trade Center." Still in the fog of sleep, I assumed it was a small private



plane, and recalled a similar incident happening to the Empire State Building years before.

It was only a few minutes later when she came back to announce, "Two planes crashed into the towers and one of them has collapsed!" That roused me from my bed. It couldn't be true! But soon enough, we all knew it was. Then reports of the Pentagon crash made it clear America was under attack.

I watched live reporting as people jumped from the second tower. I saw it crumble and fall. Other news flooded in: United Flight 93 crashing in Pennsylvania; the grounding of all flights; the evacuation of the White House and Capitol. It was overwhelming and surreal.

Most of us recall exactly where we were when we saw or heard the towers fall twenty years ago this week. It was a life-changing event, a world-changing event. Today, we can see the effects of that day: twenty years of a "war on terror" that has killed thousands of Americans and tens of thousands of Afghanis and Iraqis; thousands of veterans disabled in body, mind, and spirit; the erosion of civil liberties and the ready acceptance of security measures in every public venue; the vilification of innocent and peaceful Muslims and Arab-Americans, along with a rise in Nativism and the politics of hate; the emergence of the surveillance state... the list goes on.

As events unfolded during the day, I put out word to the congregation I served that we would have a service of prayer that evening. We read the words of Psalm 46: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear...." We prayed for our nation, for the victims and their families, for emergency personnel, for those in military service. Those prayers are as needed today as they were in 2001.

Included in the service was this litany for peace and justice (borrowed and adapted, I believe, from the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship) which is as true today as it was then:

It is not true that this world and its people are doomed to die and be lost—

This is true: There is a future for the children of peace.

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and terror, hunger and poverty, death and destruction--

This is true: The sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces and will remove sin and evil from all the earth.

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction have come to stay forever—

This is true: the Lord foils the plans of the nations and thwarts the purpose of the peoples. But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of the heart of the Lord through all generations.

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world—

This is true: the Lord gives strength to the people of God; the Lord blesses us with peace.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the official leaders, before we can do anything—

This is true: The Lord says, "I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit.

It is not true that our dreams for human freedom, of justice and human dignity, of peace, are not meant for this earth and for this time—

This is true: the hour comes and now is that the true worshippers shall worship the Lord in spirit and in truth. They are the kind of worshippers God seeks.

So let us dream; let us prophesy; let us see visions of love. And let us seek peace and justice with humility, with joy, and faith, and with courage, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

As we remember the events of 9/11 this week, let us also remember the Sovereign God who is our refuge and strength, who calls us to be ambassadors of peace and reconciliation in the world.

Faithfully,

Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter  
[dsaperstein@presbylh.org](mailto:dsaperstein@presbylh.org)

### ***Session Highlights from September 15, 2021***

- The Outreach Team created cloth masks for church members which have the church's logo on them. The masks are reported to be very comfortable.

- The flat roof has been cleaned, patched, and recoated.
- A church workday is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Oct. 2, with a rainout date of Oct. 16. Please put this on your calendar and help if you can. A lot of the work will be outdoors.
- For the time being church cleaning will be done every two weeks, rather than every week.
- The church will not be open for Halloween, due to COVID-19. Either "Trunk or Treat" will be held in the church parking lot, or the church will set up tables in the front yard and hand out treats already in bags.
- Memorial Sunday, in which we remember those who died in the previous two years and those whose special memorial funds have been used, will be November 7.
- Stewardship Sunday will be November 21.
- It was agreed that once again, due to COVID-19, we cannot safely host the Fenton Ambassadors concert this year.

Sincerely,

Jim Lyles



**May God Bless you all year long!**

October 1 <sup>st</sup>	Charlee Litten	October 19th	Rebecca Cook
October 8th	Carrie Duncanson	October 29th	Julie Parish
October 11th	Rev. Brooke Pickrell	October 31st	Kevin Magnuson
October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Todd Duncanson		

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October 25 <sup>th</sup>	Terry & Julie Parish	7 years
October 25th	Todd & Carrie Duncanson	36 years



## ***Finance Team***

Income      Aug    \$5,597.09                      YTD   \$60,859.31

Expense      Aug    \$8,321.40                      YTD   \$50,670.35

Your Finance Team,

Vicki Lyles, Carrie Duncanson & Bob Killewald

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## ***From the Care Team***

### ***Prayers of Joy ...***

- Jimmy Pernell (Gerry Jackson's friend) who is now in remission. Praise God!
- For Nicole Howe, who is pregnant with twins.

### ***Prayers of Comfort ...***

- For the family of Cristy Banks (Josh Banks mother).
- *For the family of Marc Cooper (Gerry Jackson's dear friend and guest preacher at our church).*
- For the family of Charlene Clement, and her brother Norm. A memorial service will be at Dryer Funeral Home on September 30th at 11 am. Please reach out to Norm by phone at 810-240-1845 or by mail McCandlish Manor, 4191 McCandlish Rd, Grand Blanc, MI 48439. He really is hurting.

### ***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:*** Betty Striggow (Penny Schettling's mother) recovering from hip surgery; Debbie Mikolowski (Penny Schettling's sister), who is battling cancer and having a difficult time; Karen Haneline's niece and fiancé who live outside New Orleans, which is in the path of Hurricane Ida; Julie Schram's mother-in-law who is in the hospital with Covid-19; George Dzahristos (a friend of Randy Cook's) who has suffered an aneurysm in his brain issues; Mary Renico who has been experiencing quite a bit of pain and discomfort from a wound on her leg, most likely caused by the treatment she had been receiving for skin cancer; Melinda (Elizabeth Kici's daughter), who was diagnosed with breast cancer and is undergoing treatment; Jim Pelton, who has Lewy Body Dementia and in decline; Diana (friend of Cathie Killewald) who is facing health issues and medical tests including a lung biopsy; Jimmie Pernell (friend of Gerry Jackson) who is fighting cancer; Mandie Bank's mom, Laura, who is waiting on medical test results; Jim Killewald (Bob & Cathie's son) who has a lot of pain; Baby Ryan Washer (friends of Jan & Gordie)

who has a compromised health condition and is the hospital with RSV, ongoing prayers for Hadleigh Banks, Keaton 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.

### ***Prayers from the Presbytery –***

- The Rev. Linda Graham, Temporary Supply of Davison-St. Andrews, who is recouping from surgery she had recently to remove a kidney.
- The Rev. Peter Russell, Honorably Retired, who is residing at Abbey Park in Grand Blanc. His health has declined recently.
- The 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.

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### ***Recycling***

We are looking for your used ink cartridges. Bring in your ink cartridges and any batteries you have. Thank you!

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### **Directory-**

Updated directories are in the narthex.





## 2021 Session Contacts

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### Term ends 2021

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