

# Holly Presbyterian Church Connections

## May 2022 Newsletter

### Volume 22-Issue 05



We are now in the Easter season- finally. Moving through Lent we also moved through some of the greyest, coldest days of the year, weather that serves as a reminder of the gravity of the time leading up to the crucifixion. Though Lent can be difficult and feel long, I am grateful that it is a season we observe, because if we just arrive at Easter without any preparation, without any sense of what came before, without a focus upon the cross, Easter loses its meaning and its splendor. But now, it is Easter, and the weather is mostly changed to match the spirit of this season of joy.

What I preached on Easter Day, and what I want to emphasize by writing about it in this month's newsletter, is that witnessing to and embodying the resurrection as followers of Christ means seeing the rebirth that is right in front of our eyes, this day, in the ordinary, and even in the midst of all of the great sadness and suffering in which our world is engulfed. I want to encourage us to be open to the new thing, the new creation in which God is bringing forth- in our homes, in this church, in Holly, in our nation, in the world. I want to encourage us to look for the living, as the two men tell the women at the tomb- to recognize that the cross, that suffering is an inseparable part of Jesus' story, but it is not where the story ends. With the Covid-19 pandemic still very much a part of our lives and, now, our histories, with the war in Ukraine, and with other wars and violence raging around the world, causing the displacement of so many innocent people, with our nation divided and hostile and unequal, with so many people of color in this nation fearing that their lives do not matter, with so many children suffering from disruption to their education- all of this pretty much leaves us in the shadow of the looming cross. But Easter reminds us that the cross was not the final word, and life prevailed, and, as Christians, we are charged to be bringers of life to those places where death seems dominant.

Let us start by looking for the living right in our midst, in the small, seemingly insignificant places of our homes, our families, our neighbors, this church. Where do you see signs of life? Where do you see the resurrection breaking through in the ordinary? Remember that this matters. When we are a people who can see the resurrection, who see rebirth, who see new life in the everyday, it has transformative power upon our own souls, and this changes the way we interact in the world. We become healers and peacemakers.

## Happenings in May

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We will have a work day on May 14 (May 21 in case of bad weather).

We will have our Annual Congregational Meeting on May 22nd following our worship service. Be sure to be there as this is an important meeting for all.



Flower pickup will be after service on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.



### **It's Baseball Season**

We need to show our support by showing up at their games.

It will mean a lot to them.

All games are at Karl Richter. Here is the schedule:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
TEE-BALL DIVISION SCHEDULE						
	FIELD C	FIELD E	FIELD G	GAME TIMES	TEAM ON BYE	
APRIL 23RD	2 @ 1	3 @ 6	4 @ 5	12:30/1PM	7	
APRIL 26TH	7 @ 1	5 @ 2	4 @ 3	6:30	6	
APRIL 28TH	2 @ 3	7 @ 5	1 @ 6	6:30	4	
MAY 3RD	6 @ 4	5 @ 1	3 @ 7	6:30	2	
MAY 5TH	5 @ 3	6 @ 2	1 @ 4	6:30	7	
MAY 10TH	2 @ 4	3 @ 1	7 @ 6	6:30	5	
MAY 12TH	5 @ 6	4 @ 7	1 @ 2	6:30	3	
MAY 17TH	7 @ 2	6 @ 3	4 @ 5	6:30	1	
MAY 19TH	3 @ 4	2 @ 5	1 @ 7	6:30	6	
MAY 24TH	6 @ 1	5 @ 7	3 @ 2	6:30	4	
MAY 26TH	1 @ 5	6 @ 4	7 @ 3	6:30	2	
MAY 31ST	4 @ 7	2 @ 6		6:30	1,3,5	
Team 1: Holly Vision-Craig Mattson						
Team 2: Holly Presbyterian Church-Rhysie Lang						
Team 3: Pita Way-Derek Burton						
Team 4: HAYA-Justin Dautremont						
Team 5: Purple Heart-Brad Murphy						
Team 6: A Joyful Noise-Corey Kapanka						
Team 7: Roll-A-Lot Painting-Lance Coleman						



## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

We will be passing out water bottles at the cemetery after the Memorial Day Parade. Please come out and be a part of this very important day.

Our Veterans made sure we have our freedom.

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### ***Finance Team***

Income    March    \$4,501.44    YTD    \$19,309.24

Expense    March    \$9,537.55    YTD    \$34,620.80



The church is collecting contributions for disaster assistance in Ukraine. 100% of the funds go to the cause; administrative costs do not come out of donations. If you wish to contribute, please indicate "Ukraine" or "Disaster assistance" on your check or giving envelope.

Bob Killewald and Vicki Lyles

### **Finance Team Thoughts**

I would like to express my thanks to all of you who gave me your thoughts on the questions I ran in the bulletin.

I have been asked: What was this all about? What this was all about was for us to find out just how important our fellowship is to all of us.

During the pandemic our attendance and giving has dropped off significantly. This has put us in a precarious financial state. As we come out of the pandemic, hopefully with God's help we will be able to slow the decline in our finances.

After reading your written comments and noting all the comments given during our open forum in the fellowship hall, it is obvious that as a congregation we love our fellowship, our friends and our worship here. This is where we come to sense a closer presence of Christ

through the Holy Spirit. There are many special and wonderful memories here. Many lifetime friendships have been formed here. Our old building with it's worn carpet and beautiful stained glass windows gives us a warm and comforting feeling whenever we are here.

Some suggestions were presented at our forum along with some laughs and a few tears. Some thoughts about making the front of the church more welcoming with flowers and open doors on Sunday mornings. It was suggested that maybe we could have the church open with music playing for people to come in to meditate and pray at specified time during each week or each month.

Also each of us can make phone calls to those we have not seen at worship in a while. Inquire about how they are doing and how much we miss them. Look over the prayer list in the bulletin and the newsletter and call some of them to find out how they are doing. Any ideas you may have to help us move forward are very much appreciated and needed. God has given us so much. It is only right that we give back to Him in any way that we are able to trust him for.

REMEMBER: LOVE, LAUGH AND PRAY in this way God will bless us our efforts.

Bob Killewald  
Finance Chair

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***Happy Anniversary!! May you be blessed all year long!***

May 12<sup>th</sup> Bob & Cathie Killewald 32 years

May 16<sup>th</sup> Jerry & Charlee Litten 58 years

May 26<sup>th</sup> Broady & Dessalee Cook 38 years



***Happy Birthday! May God bless you all year long!***

Joie Hecht May 1<sup>st</sup>

Gene Stevens May 6<sup>th</sup>

James Duncanson May 9<sup>th</sup>

Beau Dryer May 10<sup>th</sup> turning 6 yrs old

Brian Parker May 11<sup>th</sup>

Donna DeNise May 11<sup>th</sup>

Angel Vliet May 12<sup>th</sup>

Keaton Banks May 18<sup>th</sup>

Karen Haneline May 26<sup>th</sup>

Lisa Martin May 31<sup>st</sup>

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***From the Congregational Care Team***

Please note that now with the Team changes and the new year we have different people doing some things. Karen Haneline has gracefully agreed to take our prayer requests. You can reach her two ways: email [address-haneline526@gmail.com](mailto:address-haneline526@gmail.com) or by phone: 248-894-3489.

## MAY QUOTE

### **Prayer of Comfort**

· **Debbie Jackson's** (Gerry Jackson wife) and family as they mourn the loss of **her father**.

### **Prayer Concerns –**

· **For healing, strength, comfort and peace for: Tim McLaughlin** (Sherry's husband) recovery from right shoulder surgery; **Steve in FL** (Friend of Cathy & Bob Killewald) who has stage 4 bladder cancer; **Jim Killewald** (Bob & Cathie's son) who has a lot of pain.

### **We lift up those in prayer from the Presbytery**

**Jeanette Gillette** passed away. She was a member of Midland Memorial. Her husband, the Rev. George Gillette passed away in December

· **The Rev. Peter Russell**, Honorably Retired, who is residing at Abbey Park in Grand Blanc.

· **Our churches currently in pastoral transition.**

### **Our Mission Co-Workers:**

**Lucy Der-Garabedian** serving in Lebanon.

**Cathy Chang** and family serving in the Philippines.



### **Baby Pantry dates and volunteers**

May 6<sup>th</sup> -Jan Bradshaw & Loretta Weiss

May 20<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Canter & Cathie Killewald

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### **Session Members**

Clerk.....Jan Bradshaw..... 2023

Christian Education.....Charlee Litten..... 2022

Congregational Care.....Cathie Killewald... 2023

Finance.....Bob Killewald..... 2022

Information Technology..Brian Parker..... 2024

Outreach.....Donna DeNise..... 2023

Property.....Jim Lyles..... 2023

Worship.....Tom Schettling... 2024