

Holly Presbyterian Church Connections

December 2022 Newsletter

Volume 22-Issue 12



Dear Holly Presbyterian Church community,

I thought for this month's newsletter entry, as we approach the end of 2022, it would be a good time to reflect upon what our church has done well over the last couple of years, particularly in regard to adapting to the changing world and worship realities that the Covid-19 pandemic brought. I am using here an excerpt from the sermon that I preached on

Nov. 13.

I was not here at Holly for the entirety of your ministry through the pandemic, but I have been here long enough to witness several amazing ways our congregation showed flexibility in the midst of challenging circumstances. Who would have thought that worship could successfully and faithfully be held in a parking lot and over a radio- rain, snow, wind, or shine? And that meaningful and productive meetings could happen over Zoom? The flexibility that this provides parishioners- and your pastor- makes attending meetings much less arduous, and opens the door for people to participate who might not have been able to, for a number of factors, in the past.

We have learned as a congregation to be very conscientious of the health of our neighbors, masking even when some of us were over masking, being patient with the reality that we could not sing together for a time, or partake in communion in a more communal fashion.

We have even learned that it is an act of neighborly love to stay home when sick, whether from church or school or work or a social event, instead of attending whatever is on our agendas for the day, no matter the health cost to ourselves or those around us. And we have learned of or experienced ourselves the pervasive injustice that exists that so many do not have the option of staying home to care for themselves and others when they are ill.

We have learned that sometimes slowing down is an enormous gift to ourselves and those around us, and that being overly committed and over-scheduled is no good for anyone. We have also rediscovered the joy in participating once again in activities and ministries that were taken away from us due to pandemic restrictions.

This congregation, and much of the Church, have shown a great ability to adapt and be flexible during this pandemic, something for which the Church has rarely been known throughout its history, and I hope such progress, such willingness to see and do things differently, helps us remember that we need not fear a hopeless future for the Church. So may we live as Easter people, in the words of the distinguished preaching professor, Thomas Long, with, “an openness to being completely and absolutely surprised.” Amen.



A Special Congregation Meeting will be held immediately following worship on December 11, 2022, for the purpose of electing elders beginning with the 2023 term as well as election of the 2023 Nominating Committee.

Jan Bradshaw, Clerk

Bible Study Dec 4th and 18th 10:15 am – 10:45 am Pastor will lead us in a discussion based on lectionary readings that are to be offered during that morning's worship service. The topic will be open space for people to share their thoughts on the lectionary as well as any lingering reflections from the prior week.

Christmas Eve Service



Christmas Eve Service will be at 6:30pm
Please feel free to bring your company and family along with you.

Calendar of Events

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Fri Dec 2 nd | 10am-12pm | Baby Pantry |
| Sun Dec 4 th | 10:15-10:45am | Bible Study |
| | 7:00 pm | Fenton Ambassadors |
| Tues Dec 6 th | 6:00pm | Outreach Team Meeting |

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| | 7:00pm | Information Technology Meeting |
| Sun Dec 11 th | | Congregational Meeting after worship |
| Tues Dec 13 th | 7:30pm | Property Team Meeting |
| Wed Dec 14 th | 1:00pm | Worship Team Meeting |
| Fri Dec 16 th | 10am-12pm | Baby Pantry |
| Sun Dec 18 th | 10:15-10:45am | Bible Study |
| Thurs Dec 22 nd | 6:30pm | Session Meeting |
| Sat Dec 24 th | 6:30pm | Christmas Eve Service |
| The office is closed Dec 26 th – Jan 2 nd | | |

Finance Team

| | | | | |
|---------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|
| Income | Oct | \$11,819.76 | YTD | \$83,524.91 |
| Expense | Oct | \$ 9,047.38 | YTD | \$97,033.13 |

Bob Killewald and Vicki Lyles



Fenton Ambassadors are coming to Holly Presbyterian Church Sunday December 4th at 7 pm. Refreshments will be served after the event. You won't want to miss this. They will get you in the Christmas spirit.

Please take a tag from the list in the narthex, and purchase what is on it. Please wrap and put the gift tag on it and return it to the church by Sunday December 18th. Thank you in advance for making their Christmas.



Happy Birthday! May God bless you all year long!



| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Emily Martin | Dec 2 nd |
| Walt Brown | Dec 3 rd |
| Max Muenzer | Dec 5 th |
| Joseph Weiss | Dec 6 th |
| Gordie Bradshaw | Dec 11 th |
| Sierra Sink | Dec 17 th |

Emery Howe Dec 22nd

Vicki Lyles Dec 28th

Happy Anniversary

Dec 4th Gerry & Debbie Jackson 40 years

Dec 30th Larry & Pam Remillard 55years

God bless you all on your anniversary! Amen!

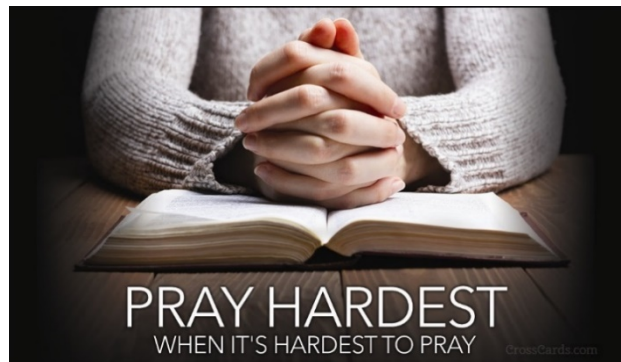
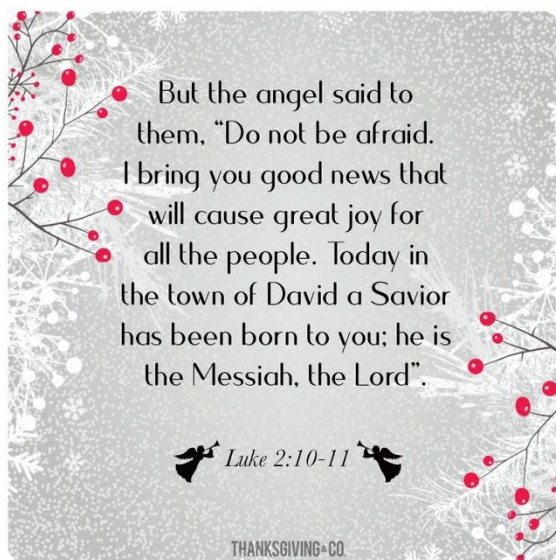


From the Congregational Care Team

If you have prayer requests please submit them to Karen Haneline (email address-haneline526@gmail.com, phone 248-894-3489) of the

Congregational Care Team and/or Sherry in the church office (email office@hollypc.org, phone 248-634-9494).

December quote



- **Prayers Concerns Comfort strength, and peace for:** the **family** of Beth Dryer as they mourn her passing; the **family** of John Blanchette (good friends of Brian & Laura Parker) as they mourn his passing; Pray for anyone affected by the fire in Holly on June 22nd; **Tony** (Cathie Killewald's friend); **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.
- **Prayers For Those Suffering From Natural And Man-made disasters:** **families and individuals** affected by the St. Louis, MO school shooting; For the **families of the victims** and those affected by Hurricane Ian; For those affected by the fire in downtown Holly; For all those people affected by the **war in Ukraine**. Bring protection and healing to the people of Ukraine.

Show them that You are with them and that You hear their prayers. Strengthen those who are hurt, alone, or broken, and Bless them with Your Peace and Hope.

We lift up those in prayer from the Presbytery

•**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.



Iobst Family



Baby Pantry dates and volunteers

Dec 2nd Fran Pelton & Loretta Weiss

Dec 16th _____ & _____

We need you! Sign up sheet is in the narthex. Thank you in advance.

Poinsettias on display in the sanctuary are in Remembrance of:



John & Ethel Millington, Chris & Marie Vickery

John & Ellen Brown, Frontus & Loma Lyles

by Jim and Vicki Lyles

Irene Oravetz (grandmother), Sophie DiCicco (aunt)

by Karen Haneline

John Miller

by Donna Miller

Jerry & Eileen Call, Cecile & Wilfred Perreault

by Larry & Pam Remillard

Iva Pelkey, Matt Montreuil, Alec Ash

by Donna DeNise

Jene & Betty Striggow, Rudy & Bernice Schetting

by Tom and Penny Schetting

Beth Dryer

by Sherry McLaughlin

Ron Howe

by Kathleen Howe

Aaron & Margaret Ganshaw

by Jennifer Chanter

Gordon & Gladys Bradshaw, Jack & Jean Fundis

by Jan and Gordie Bradshaw





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