



Holly Presbyterian Church Newsletter April 2025



We regularly like to give our very busy Stated Clerk a small break and have a member of Presbytery Council write an article for the Bi-Weekly Brief. For this edition we are grateful to the Rev. Kate Morrison, Pastor of Flint-Trinity United and Grand Blanc-Kirkridge and a member of the Mission Coordination Committee.

Eleven years ago, when I was in seminary, something that many of the students at our small school thought could never happen took place - multiple notes with racially charged and derogatory language were left on a person of color's car - not once, but twice. When these notes came to light, much of our community was in an uproar. How could such things happen at a seminary of all places? A place where we were learning to be the ministers that God had called us to be? Worse yet, how could such a thing happen in such a culturally diverse place, with people from all walks of life, and from all over the world learning together?

Unfortunately, while I and so many of my white colleagues raged and were moved to action, what we came to find out from many of the students of color at the institution was that racially charged incidents like this were not all that uncommon. In fact, for many of these students, racial micro-aggressions were a daily occurrence on campus and out in the world. Whether this be a hearing the doors of a car lock when a person of color walked by, or crossing to the sidewalk on the other side of the road when a person of color was

approaching, to simply having their experiences and thoughts constantly called into question.

Since that time, I have served a variety of congregations and communities. While I wish that I could report that things have changed for the better since seminary, unfortunately, the sin of racism continues to evolve, adapt, and become even more pervasive. The stories that I have heard since moving to Michigan in 2022, specifically from congregants of color, of the micro-aggressions they have faced in worship, bible study, or fellowship is heartbreaking, and church, we have to do better.

This is why it is vital for us to have and implement the likes of an antiracism policy, and to promote cultural competency throughout the church and our congregations.

At our March 2nd, 2025 meeting, the Presbytery of Lake Huron voted upon and approved the antiracism policy that was created and brought forth from the Mission Coordination Committee (MCC). This is so that we can be in compliance with the mandate from the Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly that all councils of the church have a stated antiracism policy. However, the MCC understands that this is just a beginning. We have a policy that we have adopted at the Presbytery level, but now we seek to help congregations adapt this policy, or craft their own, as they seek to confront racism and racist thought and ideology within their own communities and congregations. The MCC will also be looking for organizations that are dedicated to the work of cultural competency and that can provide regular training to members of our Presbytery so that we may continue in this work of becoming a more welcoming, loving, and culturally competent organization and church.

I have often heard it remarked that the first step to healing is admitting that you have a problem. So many in the church feel like we are past racism and are focusing too much on the

past. I am here to tell you that the sin of racism is just as prevalent today as it ever has been - we need only listen to the people of color who are in our churches today. As a people and a church who follows a Savior who welcomed all to his table, regardless of culture, background, or heritage, it is vital for us to recognize and actively work against the hold that racism asserts in our lives, our culture, our church, and our congregations. Friends, this *is* the work of Jesus Christ, and I pray that you will join all of us as members of the Presbytery of Lake Huron in this journey.

Rev. Kate Morrison
Pastor of Kirkridge Presbyterian Church (Grand Blanc) &
Trinity United Presbyterian Church (Flint)

Fellowship & Coffee

Start your Sunday off by coming for Coffee and Fellowship at 10:30am.

Also, remember to sign up to make the coffee and bring a snack if you are able. The signup sheet is in the back of the Sanctuary.



Finance Team

Income Feb \$6,374.52 YTD \$13,413.77
Expense Feb \$7,952.24 YTD \$16,298.80
Building Fund (includes special donation for office remodel):
Feb \$860.00 YTD \$1,150.00



Bob Killewald & Vicki Lyles

Baby Pantry dates are:



Apr 4th Cathie Killewald & Loretta Weiss

Apr 18th Pam Remillard & Jennifer Chanter

Thank you in advance to all our volunteers.

Recycle



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



April Birthdays-God bless you!



Apr 12th Jerry Litten

Apr 13th Margaret Perry

Apr 17th Gerry Jackson

Apr 18th Cathie Killewald

Apr 22nd Broady Cook

Apr 25th Jan Bradshaw



Tues	Apr 1st	7:00pm Information Technology Team
Thurs	Apr 3rd	6:00pm Masons
		6:30pm Zumba – Gathering Place
		7:00pm Session by Zoom
Fri	Apr 4th	10:00am Baby Pantry
Sun	Apr 6th	10:15am Outreach Team
		10:30am Coffee
		11:15am Worship
Fri	Apr 4th	10:00am Baby Pantry
Sun	Apr 6th	10:15am Outreach Team
		11:15am Worship
Tues	Apr 8th	7:30pm Property Team
Wed	Apr 9th	1:00pm Worship Team
Thurs	Apr 10th	6:30pm Zumba – Gathering Place
Sun	Apr 13th	10:00am Bible Study
		10:30am Coffee
		11:15am Worship
Thurs	Apr 17th	6:15pm Meal-Maundy Thursday
		6:30pm Zumba-Gathering Place

		7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service
Fri	Apr 18th	10:00am Baby Pantry
		No Good Friday Service
Sun	Apr 20th	10:30am Coffee
		11:15am Worship-Easter Sunday
Thurs	Apr 24 th	6:30pm Zumba- Gathering Place
Sun	Apr 27th	10:00am Bible Study
		10:30am Coffee
		11:15am Worship
Sun	Apr 27 th	10:00am Bible Study
		10:30am Coffee
		11:15am Worship

Outreach Team



Traverse Place-We will again be collecting toiletries (body wash, shampoo, deodorant, comb or brush, file) and candy for the 7 men and 7 women ages 16-20 years old. If you are able, please purchase and put in the box in the narthex. We are asking to have the

items back by Sunday April 13th. This will be a gift for Easter for them.

From the Congregational Care Team

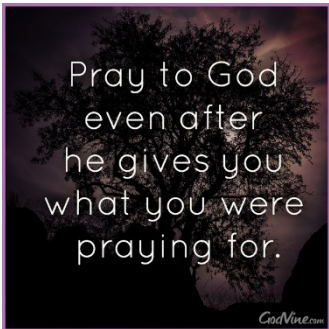
If you have prayer requests, please submit them to Karen Haneline (email [address- haneline526@gmail.com](mailto:address-haneline526@gmail.com) , phone 248-894-3489) of the Congregational Care Team.



March Quote

Prayer Concerns

Please remember to pray for Pastor Chris and his family, and our church, every day.



For healing: Tim McLaughlin (Sherry's husband) shoulder replacement; **Bill & Rose** (biological dad of Julie Schram) Bill has a hiatal hernia and needs surgery and Rose has health issues; **Charlee Litten** recovery from hip replacement; **Bob Killewald** Cellulitis; **Rosemarie McColl** (Dessalee Cook's mother) blood clot leg and foot; **Aletheia Thomas** knee; **Mary Renico** broken hip recovery; **Micah Swanson** (Sherry's second cousin) has been diagnosed with testicular and bladder cancer started treatment; **Jennifer Cotaling** (Randy Cook' sister-in-law) diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.; **Mike Schettling** (Tom Schettling's cousin) cancer, same age as Tom; **Won Chea** (Tom Schettling's brother-in-law) treatment stomach cancer; **Tom Schettling; Penny Schettling; Jerry Watkins** (Laura Parker's dad).

Ongoing prayers: Alex Searfoss (great grandson of Donna Miller) Third degree burns over 40% of his body.; **Mike Pelton, Don Neuville, Steve in FL, and Jim Killewald.**

Prayers for those suffering: for all those affected by war, severe weather, hunger, gun violence, abuse, and/or addiction.

We lift up those in prayer from the Presbytery:

Our Mission Co-Workers:
Cathy Chang and family serving in the Philippines.



Iobst Family



Keefer Family

2025 Session Members

- Clerk.....Jim Lyles..... 2026
- Christian Education.....Bob & Dessalee....2027
- Congregational Care.....Margaret Perry ... 2026
- Finance.....Bob Killewald..... 2025
- Information Technology..Walt Brown 2027
- Outreach.....Fran Pelton..... 2027
- Property.....Randy Cook..... 2025
- Worship.....Dessalee Cook..... 2025
- Moderator Pastor Chris Thomas



Please remember to check your mailbox for any mail, etc