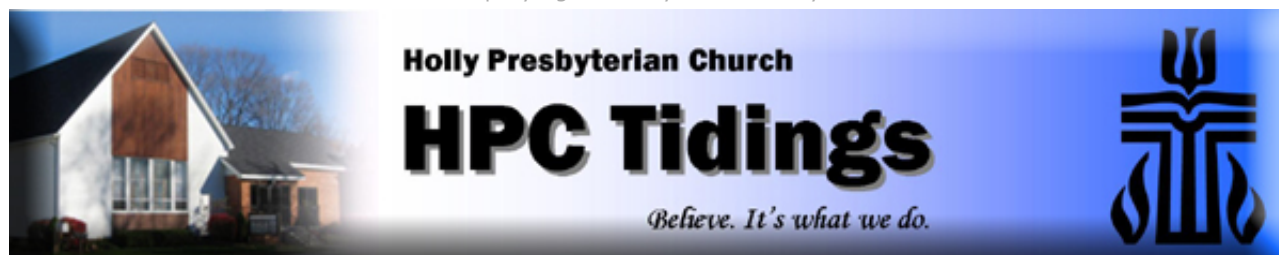


Email not displaying correctly? View it in your browser.



December 2009

From The Pastor's Desk

Rev. Randy Cullen

Dear Friends:

This will be my final newsletter entry as your Pastor. The last several months have been both painful and hopeful, as I have really had to "take a leap of faith," and go where God is leading me. A few weeks ago, I spoke with Susan Hirt, the owner of "The Bittersweet Café," and she asked me how I felt about leaving Holly. I told her that her cafe's name aptly summed it up. Please know that the decision to leave was one of the most difficult ones I've ever had to make. However, now I must be with "the love of my life." I know that this transition has not been easy for you either. This congregation, with the guidance of The Holy Spirit, will be moving forward as well. I know you will all be in good hands with the exceptional leadership of our Session and the help of The Rev. Amanda Riley of the Committee On Ministry.

After December 31st, I will be joining Karen out in Baltimore to begin another chapter in our life. Saying "good-bye" has never been easy for me, especially since I never anticipated serving Holly Presbyterian Church for only two years. However, the time spent with you has been among the most significant years of my life. It has been an honor and a privilege to have been called to this congregation. You have given so much of yourselves. There is tremendous love, potential, and so many gifted people

C

December Calendar

- Dec. 5 TFC Adopt a Family Shopping
- Dec. 6 TFC Sun School 9:15am
Sun School 9:30am
Worship 10:30am
Congregational Mtg 11:30am
Fenton Ambassadors 7:00pm
- Dec. 9 AYSO
- Dec. 13 TFC Sun School 9:15am
Sun School 9:30am
Worship 10:30am
- Dec. 14 Session 7:00pm
- Dec. 15 Newsletter Deadline
- Dec. 20 TFC Sun School 9:15am
Sun School 9:30am
Worship 10:30am
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm
- Dec. 27 TFC Sun School 9:15am
Sun School 9:30am
Worship 10:30am
- Dec. 31 TFC New Year's Eve Party
at Haneline's 7:30pm

Check out our [online calendar](#).

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The fall congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 6th, in the sanctuary, immediately following the worship service.

FENTON AMBASSADORS DEC 6th

The Fenton High School Ambassadors will again be with us for an evening of Christmas carols & songs. Please join us at 7:00 pm and bring someone with you! There will be a time for refreshments afterwards.

HPC COOKBOOKS, BAGS, AND CIIPS

here. My family and I have cherished our relationships, as all of us have traveled together through some of the most difficult economic times in American history. We will all make it through the years to come with prayer and the support of the community of faith. I will always remember your special gifts of hospitality and outreach.

As we approach Christmas, may the joy of the season and the birth of the Christ-child give you the hope and anticipation of many years of meaningful ministry. You have all been so kind and special to me, and I will miss you dearly. Merry Christmas! I will always keep Holly Presbyterian Church in my heart and prayers. Many thanks for all of our times together. The peace of Christ be with you.

Your Pastor and Friend, Randy Cullen

Thoughts from Seminary

By Cassie Todd

I'd like to start my first column by thanking the church for supporting me in my studies at Columbia Theological Seminary, in Decatur, Georgia. The session and I hope that this column can be a pathway for a deeper connection between Holly Presbyterian Church and myself while I am away working on my degree. Please feel free to respond to these columns so that I might grow in my calling.

In November I was asked to go on a preaching trip to St. Andrew Presbytery in Mississippi, and preach at Calvary Presbyterian Church in Greenville.

While visiting there, I stayed with a very gracious family that did everything they possibly could to make me feel at home and welcome in their home, church and city.

I was really filled with God's joy and felt truly blessed as I witnessed the spiritual practice of hospitality at work in the kingdom of God.

Having that experience, I came back to

HPC cookbooks, bags, and cups make wonderful Christmas gifts. If interested in purchasing any of these items for that special family member or friend, please see Christine Cook or Judy Studer after church any Sunday between now and Christmas.

OFFERING ENEVELOPES

As a matter of information, if you use monthly offering envelopes, your 2010 envelopes will have a different number than what you've had in the past. We have many unused numbers so we will use these unused numbers in order to save money. Those of you who use the weekly envelopes, your numbers will stay the same. All offering envelopes will be available in mid December.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please pray...

...for the following individuals: Joyce Walters, Joe & Bev Ponton, Jerry Studer, Peggy Ranger, Randy & Karen Cullen, Beth Foss, Pat Frank, Ardath Regan, Harriet Striggow, Alice Horak, and all of the members of the church who are facing health problems.

...for the families of the congregation and for those who are living alone as well. Pray that we can treat each other with care and compassion. Pray for members of the church who face difficult times or decisions.

...For our Session as they continuously seek God's leading for the life and future of our church....for the leaders and peoples of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Palestine. Pray for peace in those nations and in our world. And please remember the men & women in our armed services in your prayers.

Office Hours

Regular office hours are:
9:00 am - 3:00 pm T, TH&F

The office is closed on Monday & Wednesday, but the pastor will be available by cell at 248-835-5204, at home at 248-879-0507 or by email at pastor@hollvnc.org.

school only to be translating Mark 12:18-34 in my exegesis class that week. In these verses lies the great commandment from Jesus, "Listen! Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord. And you will love the lord your God out from all your heart, and out from all of your soul, and out from all of your mind, and out from all of your strength. Second is this; you will love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these" (Mark 12:29b-31, "Cassie Todd Translation").

Both from this experience at Calvary Presbyterian Church and this commandment from Jesus to love God and your neighbor, I really think God is saying something about loving our visitors and being hospitable to them this holiday season. It seems to me that sometimes we (this includes me!) get so wrapped up in spending time with family during the holidays that we tend to shy away from the visitors and guests at our holiday gatherings. Take some time this season, to focus your energy on welcoming the outsiders in your gatherings. By doing so you are practicing a spiritual gift of hospitality as well as fulfilling what Jesus is calling us to do, to love our neighbors.

God bless you all and keep you safe and full of God's love this Christmas, Cassie Todd

The January Newsletter Deadline is Dec. 15th.

Our mailing address is: 207 E Maple St. Holly MI 48442
office@hollypc.org / 248-634-9494
Copyright (C) 2008 Holly Presbyterian Church All rights reserved.

...; or by email at pastor@hollypc.org.

Our Missionaries

Please pray for our missionaries. Up to date information on them can be found on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall:

Allen and Deedee Iobst
APDO de Correos 188
11201 Algeciras-Cadiz SPAIN
allen_deedee@yahoo.com

Colby and Sarah Keefer
4695 Sycamore Dr
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Colby.Keefer@athletesinaction.org
Sarah.Keefer@athletesinaction.org

Mission Statement

Holly Presbyterian Church is a community of faith in God that values peaceful, loving and just relationships in our church, families, and the world.

Our Mission is to :

- Worship God in a faithful and joyful manner;
- Teach the Good News of the Christian faith, share that faith with each other and reach out to those beyond the church;
- Be a loving family dedicated to the biblical values of peace, love, faith, and justice;
- Develop a dynamic presence in our community under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Visit our [website](#).

To unsubscribe from our list, please click [here](#):

[Remove me from this list](#)

