



**February 2010**

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## **From The Seminarian's Desk**

**By Cassie Todd**

From the Library at United Theological College of the West Indies, Jamaica:

January 11, 2010

"I thank my God every time I remember you."

Phil. 1:3

We have been in Jamaica now for a few days. We have had a lecture on Jamaican culture, a tour of Papine -- including the University of the West Indies and the Jamaican Technical University. We have visited the teaching hospital at UWI, have had a lecture on the Jamaican economy, toured Kingston churches, visited a craft market, visited the National Gallery of Jamaica, saw "Pirate Jack" with the LTM National Pantomime Company (which was actually a musical-not a pantomime like we would think), went up to Content Gap in the mountains and visited a rural church/primary school and Blue Mountain coffee farm there. Yesterday, we split up and worshiped at different churches. I worshiped at St. Margaret's Anglican Church and then ate lunch and spent the early afternoon with an elderly couple from the church. In the evening we all attended a local Pentecostal church.

While visiting churches in the Kingston area, we went to one Anglican church that had graves in the

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## **February Calendar**

- Feb. 7 TFC Sun School 9:15am  
Sun School 9:30am  
Worship with Communion 10:30am  
TFC Valentine's Brunch 11:30am
- Feb. 10 AYSO
- Feb. 14 TFC Sun School 9:15am  
Sun School 9:30am  
Worship 10:30am
- Feb. 15 Session Meeting 7:00pm  
Newsletter Deadline
- Feb. 21 TFC Sun School 9:15am  
Sun School 9:30am  
Worship 10:30am  
Congregational Mtg 11:30  
TFC Holly Woodlands Visit
- Feb. 28 TFC Sun School 9:15am  
Sun School 9:30am  
Worship with Communion 10:30am

Check out our [online calendar](#).

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## **Haiti Earthquake Relief**

Anyone wishing to give monetary support to aid the victims of Haiti's earthquake may do so through the church office. We will collect the money and send it to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program. Clearly designate on the "memo" line of your check that the donation is for "Haiti" or "Earthquake Relief" so that we can channel it accordingly.

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floor of the church. There were so many and were placed in such a way that it was close to impossible to not step on the markers of these graves while in the church. This unnerved me as I saw people stepping on the graves-both from our group and from the Anglican church. Apparently it was a normal thing to do way back in the day, to bury graves in the floor of the church. To the church, it was obvious that it wasn't disrespectful to walk on the graves, but to me and my culture it is. I felt wrong and tried to walk the cracks between the graves when there was no other floor to step on. It's hard going into another culture and adjusting to what they find is respectful when you've been taught that it is not.

-Cassie Todd

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## The Pastors' Corner

We feel so blessed to have been called to minister with all of you here at Holly Presbyterian Church. It brings us joy and we have high hopes for our future together. This will, however, require the combined efforts of the pastors, staff, and congregation. God is with us as we move ahead and the Holy Spirit will direct us. We give thanks for your immediate hospitality and look forward to working with Allie as she and we begin this journey with you.

You may want to know a little about us. We have been co-pastors for over 25 years at seven churches. This includes serving as interim co-pastors at four churches. It has been an exciting and rewarding time for us as we have moved from Florida, to Ohio, Vermont and now Michigan. We met in 1979 in Birmingham, Michigan as we were both elders at First Presbyterian Church. This church supported us as we accepted the call to ministry and went to Louisville Presbyterian Seminary together. This last move, almost five years ago, brought us back to Michigan to be close to a majority of our children and now to you.

We look forward to knowing all of you and encourage you to call or email us if you would like a pastoral visit. Phone # 248-651-5779 and email address, [abomaggie@aol.com](mailto:abomaggie@aol.com) If you are homebound, we are also happy to serve you communion in your home.

Blessings, Revs. Ann and Bill

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## The Season of Lent

The image of the Palm Sunday procession captures the imagination of the church in Lent. Jesus, who began his ministry by calling people to "follow me," now leads his followers into the heart of the world's suffering and struggle. Jesus preaches freedom, healing, justice, and new life. To follow Jesus means to carry out his mission in our time: it requires humble self-knowledge and the willingness to change one's own life. This following leads each of us to Jerusalem where we encounter the suffering of our Lord and Savior and ultimately victory over death and the promise

## A Message From the Stewardship Committee

Each year our church is required to pay Per Capita Fees to Presbytery. The fee is based on active members of our church. For 2010, Per Capita Fees will be \$2,532.28. This equates to \$21.83 per member. While this fee is budgeted each year, it is not an easy expense to pay. Heating bills are higher in the winter, insurance is paid every January, and February is a short month. Please prayerfully consider sending payment for the Per Capita Fees associated with yourself and immediate family; for a family of four this equates to \$87.32. All Per Capita contributions will appear on your annual giving statement and will help ease our February finances. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Stewardship Committee. Thank you for your prayerful consideration, and God Bless!

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## Food Pantry

As the food need for people in our community is still growing, we will continue collecting food for the pantry at Holly First Baptist Church. Please remember to bring your canned or boxed food and place it in the narthex.

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## Our Life Together

Please pray...

...for the following individuals: Donna Miller, 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.

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## Office Hours

Beginning the second week in February, the regular office hours will be Mondays,

of the resurrection.

During this Lenten season here at Holly Presbyterian Church, there will be a variety of opportunities for us to experience this call to "follow me." On Ash Wednesday, February 17th, we will gather for a soup supper in Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm. After this time of table fellowship, an Ash Wednesday service will take place in the Sanctuary. On Wednesdays, February 24th, March 3rd, March 10th and March 24th, we will gather for a simple soup supper followed by a Lenten Study. It is never too early to mark your calendars for as many of these Wednesday gatherings as you can attend!

You will be provided with A Sharing Calendar. It is remarkable what our gifts will do! This One Great Hour of Sharing Calendar highlights some of the challenging situations we address when extending care to God's treasured people in the United States and around the world. Each day suggests a donation of coins. Each household can decide what coin is best for your situation each day.

Wednesdays & Fridays 9am-3pm.

Pastors Ann and Bill Robertson will be in on Mondays 2:30pm-7:00pm and Wednesdays 9:30am-3:00pm

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## 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](mailto:allen_deedee@yahoo.com)

Colby and Sarah Keefer  
4695 Sycamore Dr  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
[Colby.Keefer@athletesinaction.org](mailto:Colby.Keefer@athletesinaction.org)  
[Sarah.Keefer@athletesinaction.org](mailto:Sarah.Keefer@athletesinaction.org)

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## 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.
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Visit our [website](#).

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