



Holly Presbyterian Church

HPC Tidings

Believe. It's what we do.



July/August 2010

From the Seminarian's Desk

by Cassie Todd

"For I am convinced neither death nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

--Romans 8:38-39

Dear Friends,

In the second week of my internship at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, an elderly member of the Church passed away. By God's grace, my supervising pastor was stopping by the office with her son on her day off when we received the news.

The family wanted to have the service two days later and as an eager intern, I sincerely asked my supervisor if there was anything I could do to help. She then asked me to go and visit with the family with her the next day, and also asked me to help out with the funeral. I gratefully obliged.

Upon readily agreeing, another all too familiar feeling started to bubble up in me. I was nervous, and over the next two days the nerves became worse. I started to worry about tripping on my words at the funeral, how my robe was too big, and keeping it together when everyone around me is crying.

When I sat behind the pulpit before the service began, the nerves came to a familiar point. They felt the same as they do every time I stand up in the pulpit to speak during worship. Secularly, we might call this stage fright but in reality something else is always at work.

July Calendar

July 4 Worship with Communion 10:00am
July 11 Worship at Lakeside Park 10:00am
July 14 AYSO 7:30pm
July 16 Blood Drive
July 18 Contemporary Worship 10:00am
July 19 Session Meeting 7:00pm
July 25 Worship 10:00am

August Calendar

Aug 1 Worship with Communion 10:00am
Aug 8 Worship 10:00am
Aug 11 AYSO
Aug 15 Worship 10:00 am
with Sloppy Joe and
Ice Cream Social to follow
Aug 15 Newsletter Deadline
Aug 22 Worship 10:00am
Aug 29 Worship 10:00am

Check out our [online calendar](#).



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Laura Mulder and Lucas Carl on their wedding, June 26th.

Worship in the Park - Lakeside Park, July 11th, 10am

Please join us at Lakeside Park at 10am on Sunday, July 11th to celebrate the church's birthday. Potluck and fellowship to follow. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets, outdoor games, and a dish to pass. Hot dogs, buns, lemonade and table service will be provided. In the event of rain, come celebrate with us at the church.

When we are to speak God's word, the Spirit moves in us. For others and myself, we feel the Spirit moving in us through these nerves. In speaking God's word, not only do we feel the Spirit move through us but also feel our own fear of God. A fear of respect for the One we worship. These nerves I have are a compiling of both the Spirit at work, and my fear of God (and yes probably stage fright too).

Having the comfort of familiar nerves my worries began to fade, and I was blessed in being able to help lead the funeral service. I found myself later in the service thanking the lady who passed away. I thanked her for her life and her death, both of which allowed me to grow in ministry.

When a person passes on we feel great sorrow, and may ask ourselves why? Why did she have to leave now? Why not just a few more months? I discovered a portion of the answer for this person's passing, at least from my perspective. In passing away at the time she did, I was granted the ability to grow in ministry through helping out with her funeral, so that in my future, when the time comes, I might be prepared to help another family. In speaking with her family we found out how she loved seeing women in ministry and they told us how she would be delighted to know two women were doing her funeral.

I know this isn't the complete bigger picture of God's work and reasoning in the world, but it has shed light on a glimpse of that picture. It is a privilege and honor to be given that gift.

Sincerely,
Cassie Todd

The Pastors' Corner

An Earth-Honoring Faith

We, your pastors, are gravely concerned--as we suspect all of you also must be--about the oil spill in the Gulf. It raises all kinds of questions for us. Not the least of which is, what responsibility do we have for the situation we find ourselves in as a world community? Our Christian faith and ethic is committed to justice and honoring the Earth. We were given dominion over this earth, its creatures and its plants, all of it. Could our habits be part of the problem? We drive here and there for work and pleasure, seldom thinking about what this may be doing to the atmosphere. We buy food from all over the world, seldom looking at the signs that tell us it may have come from Costa Rica (this food comes on airplanes, trains, trucks with horrific impact on resources). We buy clothes that may have been made by laborers in another country under less than humane working conditions. It is so very difficult to know,

Sloppy Joe and Ice Cream Social, Sunday, August 15, 11am

Mark your calendars now for the Sloppy Joe and Ice Cream social to be held after worship on August 15th.

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.

Our Life Together

Please pray...

...for Pat Frank, Jerry Studer, Jean Sargent, Jack Smith, Beth Foss, Ardath Regan, Harriet Striggow, Bev Ponton, Alice Horak, Cristy Banks, Terry Sizemore, Tina and Anthony Ascione, Amie Davis 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. 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 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9:00am - 3:00pm. Pastors Ann and Bill Robertson's hours are on Mondays 1:30 - 8:30 pm and Wednesdays 10:00am-3:00pm. Up-to-date information is available at our [website](#) under "Church News" or you may contact the church at 248-634-9494.

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

how our everyday routines affect the world, the earth that we live in. And for us, and maybe for you, it is so very, very difficult to change our habits, our daily way of living, the conveniences that we take so for granted, the access to everything we might ever desire or want. The word simplify brings questions of "why?" or "why me? or " why now?"

Reading a magazine this past week, there was a picture of oil drums with a Pelican perched on one of them. It looked rather harmless until you put it in perspective and realized the impact of the oil spill in the Gulf. The lives of those people will probably never be the same. Assuredly, the lives of the birds, the fish, the wildlife, the wetlands will take years and years to return to health.

The biblical notion that enough is enough doesn't register anymore. When we attended the conference in Louisville, we were troubled with the question, "What is enough?" We wonder if this is a question that we at Holly Presbyterian Church would like to challenge ourselves to answer honestly, in faith, together, as a community of Christ, as children of God, who have been given the responsibility to care for ALL of Creation. Maybe some of us want to and could gather this summer to consider some of the ways that we can help save the earth. How our church can make a difference. We can do this not out of guilt but with joy that each new day holds promise and opportunity for us to love ourselves, each other and this creation as something precious. What a challenge! What an opportunity! If you are answering "yes" to the question, let us know and together we will speak and act in faith as witnesses to our Savior, Jesus Christ.

-- Blessings and Peace, Pastors Ann and Bill

Reunion with a Cause

This year we will again be participating in the **Reunion with a Cause** cancer walk sponsored by the Genesys Health Foundation. The event will be held on Friday, August 13th from 6:00-10:30 pmat the Holly High School track. This benefit walk is to raise money to assist Genesys cancer patients who are in need of help with such costs as medicine, chemotherapy treatments, transportation to and from medical appointments, and much more. 100% of the money collected will go for such help For each \$10 donation, you can have a person's name put on a luminary bag which will be placed around the track. Names can be in memory of someone who died from cancer or a survivor of cancer. If you have any questions or would like to help get donations, call Roberta Single at 248-634-4360. Please join us at the Presbyterian tent on August 13th. You may choose to walk with us or bring a chair to stay and visit.

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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.

Visit our [website](#).

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