



October 2010

## From the Seminarian's Desk

by Cassie Todd

In trying to write this article this month I was trying to be inspiring, yet no matter what I started to write an article about it didn't achieve that end. I was talking to a friend about this and he mentioned maybe the problem was in me wanting to be inspiring. Instead I wrote about what I need to hear, and maybe for some of you it is what you need to hear too. It's not inspiring, but it's knowledge that gives me hope in this time in my life.

-Cassie

### Jesus Suffered

"Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying 'Hail, King of the Jews!' and striking him on the face." (John 19:1-3). "So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him..." (John 19:16b-18a).

It's horrible that Jesus underwent all of this. No one can deny that Jesus went through a terrible death. Jesus felt pain. Other gospels tell us Jesus cries out to God. Jesus was fully human and underwent this death fully experiencing the suffering, and after this we state in the Apostle's creed that Jesus descended into hell.

Is it a real place, this hell to which Jesus descended? The classmates I know are on both sides. Some say yes, others say it's more complicated than a place. In affirming that Jesus descended into hell, it's not an affirmation

### October Calendar

- Oct 3 World Communion Sunday  
Teens/Adult Sunday School 9:15  
Children's Sunday School 9:30  
Worship with Communion 10:30am  
Potluck Luncheon 11:30am
- Oct 10 Teens/Adult Sunday School 9:15  
Children's Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 10:30am
- Oct 13 AYSO 7:30pm
- Oct 15 Newsletter Deadline
- Oct 17 Teens/Adult Sunday School 9:15  
Children's Sunday School 9:30  
Contemporary Worship 10:30am
- Oct 18 Session Meeting 7:00pm
- Oct 19 Knit-Wits Meeting 6:30pm
- Oct 23 Snoop Party 7:00pm
- Oct 24 Teens/Adult Sunday School 9:15  
Children's Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 10:30am
- Oct 31 Teens/Adult Sunday School 9:15  
Children's Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 10:30am

Check out our [online calendar](#).



### World Communion Sunday - Sunday October 3, 2010

Please join us in worship on Sunday, October 3rd, as we celebrate World Communion Sunday. After the service, please join us

for an "International Potluck" luncheon.

about hell, but about Jesus. We proclaim Jesus has gone to the worst place, the furthest place from God. We proclaim there is no place that God won't go for us. We proclaim that Jesus suffered greatly and that God did not abandon Him in His anguish.

In this proclamation we are given hope. Hope that in our suffering, God suffers with us, and God has suffered the worst, and has conquered. We need to know this when we suffer, when we go through terrible things, when we hurt and are in pain. We need to know that God has conquered through the resurrection of Christ, but we also just need to know that God is with us and understands our pain because Jesus, too, underwent suffering.

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## The Pastors' Corner

### Justice and Peace

As your pastors, we have been thinking and praying about the meaning of World Communion Sunday which is also Peacemaking Sunday in the Presbyterian Church, USA. We have looked more carefully at the Book of Order for our denomination and wanted to share a few highlights in reference to Peace and Justice.

*Reconciliation: Justice and Peace (W-7.4000) from the Book of Order*

"God sends the Church in the power of the Holy Spirit to share with Christ in establishing God's just, peaceable, and loving rule in the world...God's reconciliation in Jesus Christ is the ground of justice and peace. (Confession of 1967) The Church in worship proclaims, receives, and enacts reconciliation in Jesus Christ and commits itself to strive for justice and peace in its own life and in the world..."

Justice is the order God sets in human life for fair and honest dealing and for giving rights to those who have no power to claim rights for themselves... There is no peace without justice. Wherever there is brokenness, violence, and injustice the people of God are called to peacemaking."

It is a tall order for us as Christians first, and Presbyterians second, to carry out these mandates for peace and justice. In conversation, Ann has heard a number of parents of teenage girls expressing their concern over the culture in which their children are growing up. They receive mixed messages from media, advertising, and maybe most importantly from their friends; messages about what to wear, and how to act. These women felt that they, as parents, should be as present as possible with their teenagers - as present as all other influences on their lives - by showing interest, caring and concern for their daughters' well-being. For

## Prayer Shawl/Chemo Cap Ministry

The Knit-Wits are expanding their efforts! So, if you don't know how to knit or crochet, but know how to use a sewing machine (or even just know how to wield a mean pair of scissors,) your talents are in high demand as the Knit Wits begin some new projects including sewing "neck/face warmers" for US Troops and dresses for African orphans.

Regular meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month. Come and join us to knit/crochet *and* sew.

Also, the ministry is looking for fabric donations. If you have any fabric remnants that you'd like to share, please contact Bev Ponton at 248-634-5638.

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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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## Thank You, Thank You!

Thank you to all who contributed time or money to this year's Reunion with a Cause.

Our church and Citizens Bank turned in a total of \$1,277.00 while the overall Reunion collected \$77,000! A special "Thank You!" goes out to Peggy Ranger, Donna Miller and Ann Robertson for taking donations. Everyone did a great job helping Genesys cancer patients!

--Roberta Single

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## Snoop Party

HPC will hold a Snoop Party on Saturday, October 23rd at 7:00pm. If you've never enjoyed this experience, come join us. Bring a \$4-5 unwrapped "gift" in a brown paper bag.

Also, bring an appetizer to share. Beverages and fun will be provided. Contact Roberta Single with any questions at 248-634-4360.

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## Our Life Together

Please pray...

...for Pat Frank, Dan Nash, Josh Banks, Jerry Studer, Edith Sargent, Jack Smith, Beth Foss, Ardath Regan, Harriet Striggow, Bev Ponton, Cristy Banks, Terry Sizemore, 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.

us this seemed a good example of how to deal with the trials that we all face individually, corporately, and nationally. In little and big ways, this impacts those around us as well as those far away with the Christian message: Peace, not war; Love not hate.

How many times do we speak up for the underprivileged, the down and out, those we don't know, even those with whom we disagree? How many times do we try to reconcile differences with words instead of violence? How many times do we stop supporting movies, television, sports events that show violence as the answer? Like us, maybe the answer is "Not often enough!"

All of us here at HPC know men and women who are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. We ask ourselves, "When and how will this all end?" When will we stop seeing pictures of those we love being deployed for the second, third and fourth time? We recall TV images of a young soldier, holding his infant son, with his wife resting her head on his shoulder, her face showing the pain of this third deployment. Our fervent prayers shall continue for all those who serve, those who make the decisions, and for ourselves as we strive to do our share in bringing peace.

October 3<sup>rd</sup>, when we celebrate World Communion Sunday, we will sing "In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north; But one great fellowship of love Throughout the whole wide earth."  
May it be so.

-- Peace and Blessings, Ann and Bill

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## Thank You!

Saturday, September 11th was a bustling day here at HPC, when 28 members joined together to clean, repair, paint and garden around their church home. A huge "Thank You!" to all who spent their Saturday helping HPC look it's best!  
Though we made a great start, there are still several projects that need attention. To view a full list, check out our [website](#). Contact Broady Cook to find out what you can do to continue the work!

Pray for members of the church who face difficult times or difficult decisions.

...For our Session as they continuously seek God's leadership 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

Regular office hours are Mondays-Thursdays: 9am-2pm. The office is closed on Fridays.  
Revs. Ann and Bill Robertson's hours are on Monday afternoons 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.

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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  
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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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