



January 2011

## The Pastors' Corner

### Epiphany

The Day of Epiphany, which marks the end of the Christmas season, falls on January 6th, the twelfth day after Christmas. And on the first Sunday after the day of Epiphany, we have the Baptism of the Lord. We have the visit of the Magi which most of us consider to be part of the story of Christmas. This marks the end of the story of the Christ Child's birth, and the beginning of new life for all. This ending and beginning is also what we experience with the end of one year and the beginning of a new one.

For Holly Presbyterian Church, the New Year will ring in many new and exciting things. And each of us will be part of the changes and the challenges that greet us. Ann Weems writes in [Kneeling in Bethlehem](#):

*"The church is Epiphany. We are the Magi, searching, resplendent in this world's accouterments of knowledge and wealth and achievement. But we search for something more. And – of all the unlikely places – in a stable the Deity appears. The birth of our Lord burst in upon our ordinary lives like fireworks in the snow. Only God would send a little baby King, and we are on our knees, where we are within reach of our full personhood."*

Our believing begins with the manger but

## January Calendar

- Jan 2    Worship with Communion 10:30am  
(No Sunday Schools)
- Jan 9    Teens/Adult Sunday School 9:15  
Children's Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 10:30am
- Jan 12    AYSO 7:00pm
- Jan 15    Newsletter Deadline
- Jan 16    Teens/Adult Sunday School 9:15  
Children's Sunday School 9:30  
Contemporary Worship 10:30am
- Jan 17    Session Meeting 7:00pm
- Jan 23    Teens/Adult Sunday School 9:15  
Children's Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 10:30am
- Jan 30    Teens/Adult Sunday School 9:15  
Children's Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 10:30am

Check out our [online calendar](#).

## Good Bye, Friends!

Dear HPC Family,  
As most of you already know, I have resigned my position as Church Secretary as of December 23rd. It is with great sadness that I say goodbye to all of you. I love this church, I love the people and I love what I do.  
However, with two children in a tuition-based school and financial aid programs not being what we thought they would be, I've come to the difficult decision that I need a full-time job so that we can continue to provide our children with the education they need.  
Thank you so very much for your kindness, your friendships and your welcoming. I will miss you all so very much.  
-Allie

continues each day of our lives as our faith grows.

As we enter this New Year let us remember the past people, events and situations that held significance for us; remember anyone or anything that comes to your mind and heart. And let us give thanks for the many gifts we have received, the blessing and opportunities for growth. And last but surely not least, entrust yourself to God and pray a prayer of hope for the beginning of this New Year.

Joyce Rupp writes this prayer:

*Faithful companion, in this new year I pray: to live deeply, with purpose, to live wisely, with humility, to live lovingly, with fidelity, to live gratefully, with generosity, to live fully, with enthusiasm. Help me to become ever more one with you, my God who loves me always.*

Amen.

Blessings, Revs. Ann and Bill

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## What Do I Want for Christmas?

A poem by Ann Weems

from "Kneeling in Bethlehem"

What do I want for Christmas?

I want to kneel in Bethlehem,  
the air is thick with alleluias,  
the angels singing  
that God is born among us.

In the light of the Star,

I want to see them come,  
the wise ones and the humble.

I want to see them come

bearing whatever they treasure  
to lay at the feet  
of him who gives his life.

What do I want for Christmas?

To see in that stable

The whole world kneeling in thanks  
for a promise kept:  
new life.

For in his nativity

we find ours.

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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 Dan Nash, Emma Jean Sargent, Marjorie Smith, Josh Banks, Pat Frank, Jerry Studer, Edith Sargent, Jack Smith, Beth Foss, Ardath Regan, Harriet Striggow, Bev Ponton, Alice Horak, 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. 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

Regular office hours are Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm.

Pastors Ann and Bill Robertson's hours are on Mondays 1:30 - 8:30 pm and Wednesdays 10:00am-3:00pm.

The office is closed on Fridays.

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 lobst  
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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Visit our [website](#).

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