



Holly Presbyterian Church

Believe. It's what we do.



From your pastor ...

June 1, 2011

As I write this, I am aware of the workers upstairs who are getting ready for the annual garage sale. So much work and dedication! That is what I've observed about this new congregation I have been called to serve – there is a great deal of energy and commitment to the church. I hear discussions about things, decisions being made, conversations that sound like family because you are so comfortable being together. Sometimes I hear small disagreements about little things but never arguments or anger. In other words, it reminds me of family – a place where we can be ourselves, free to express our opinions, a place where we trust that we are loved and cared for even with our unique personalities.

Of course, I'm not so naïve that I think there have never been hurt feelings or a need to forgive. I don't know of any family that hasn't had its uneasy situations where people are upset or frustrated. Growing up in a family with a step-father and a blended family, we certainly had our share of disagreements and having to work things out. Family is a place where we practice our Christian life – celebrating together, growing, learning from one another, working toward unity, practicing empathy, compassion, encouragement and forgiveness. I do think Church is a family, don't you? And I am delighted to be a part of it!

As I write this, I also have the news that has come from the denomination on my mind. We have learned that there are now enough votes from Presbyteries across the United States to pass Amendment 10-A. That is the Amendment that changes the language in our "rule" book (The Book of Order) regarding who is qualified to be ordained for the office of Ministry of Word and Sacrament (pastors), Elders and Deacons. The wording takes the focus off of the sexual orientation of the candidate and focuses on the gifts and readiness of that person for ministry. We are actually going back to the language of previous years. It also puts the decision of who is acceptable for ordination into the hands of the governing body that is ordaining – Presbyteries decide on who will be ministers; Sessions decide on who is ready to be ordained as Elder or Deacon.

Some in the family are rejoicing in this vote because they hope it will end a long, long period of debate and will help us focus on the mission of the church again. Some are thankful because it opens the door for people to be ordained who were shut out in the past. Some members of the family, however, are devastated because it seems that the denomination is caving in to our culture and dropping our Christian values and standards.

It is a difficult time to be in the family if you have great passion about this subject. I think it is fair to say the main reason for our passion is our great, deep love for the Presbyterian Church and our desire to follow what Christ teaches. Unfortunately we don't all agree on biblical interpretation.

I would encourage you, as dedicated, committed members of the family of Jesus Christ - to increase your prayers for the Church, to reach out to all who are hurting, to have open discussions about faith – talking and listening in love.

In this newsletter, you will find a letter written to congregations from the Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly Office. Please read it and keep our church and the denomination – a part of the larger family of God – in your constant prayers. Let us work together in love and unity to build up Christ's Church in every way we can.

I am proud to be a part of the family!

Peace and Grace,

Pastor Sharlyn

May 2011

To congregations of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

May grace, mercy, and peace be yours in abundance (Jude 1:2).

The debate about ordination standards has been a Presbyterian family struggle for much of the last three decades. We have sought to find that place where every congregation and every member, deacon, elder, and minister of the Word and Sacrament can share their gifts in ministry while, at the same time, the integrity of every congregation, member, deacon, elder, and minister is respected.

This year, the conversation has focused on Amendment 10-A that was passed by the 219th General Assembly (2010) and sent to presbyteries for approval. While we wait for official tallies, it appears that 87 presbyteries will approve 10-A during the week of May 9, which is the majority required for approval.

If this becomes official, the new language outlining the gifts and requirements for ordained service will say the following:

Standards for ordained service reflect the church's desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life (G-1.0000). The governing body responsible for ordination and/or installation (G.14.0240 G-14.0450) shall examine each candidate's calling, gifts, preparation, and suitability for the responsibilities of office. The examination shall include, but not be limited to, a determination of the candidate's ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation (W-4.4003). Governing bodies shall be guided by Scripture and the confessions in applying standards to individual candidates.

This decision begins with an unequivocal affirmation that ordained office will continue to be rooted in each deacon, elder, and minister's "joyful submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life."

This action also has important effects on our life together as a church, namely:

- in keeping with our historic principles of church order, each session and presbytery will continue to determine the suitability of individuals seeking ordination within its bounds.
- persons in a same-gender relationship may be considered for ordination and/or installation as deacons, elders, and ministers of the Word and Sacrament within the PC(USA); and
- all other churchwide standards for ordination remain unchanged.

Reactions to this change will span a wide spectrum. Some will rejoice, while others will weep. Those who rejoice will see the change as an action, long in coming, that makes the PC(USA) an inclusive church that recognizes and receives the gifts for ministry of all those who feel called to ordained office. Those who weep will consider this change one that compromises biblical authority and acquiesces to present culture. The feelings on both sides run deep.

However, as Presbyterians, we believe that the only way we will find God's will for the church is by seeking it together — worshiping, praying, thinking, and serving alongside one another. We are neighbors and colleagues, friends and family. Most importantly, we are all children of God, saved and taught by Jesus Christ, and filled with the Holy Spirit.

We hold to the strong affirmation that all of us are bound together as the church through Jesus Christ our Lord. "There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all," Paul wrote to the Ephesians [4:5-6].

It is Jesus Christ who calls individuals to ordained ministries, and all those who are called to ordained office continue to acknowledge Jesus as Lord of all and Head of the church. It is this same Jesus Christ who is the foundation of our faith and to whom we cling.

No doubt, there will be several news stories and other reports about this change in the days ahead. A number of resources, including frequently asked questions and liturgical resources, are available for you at <http://org.pcusa.org>. In addition, for those who wish to comment on or inquire further about 10-A, please contact ga.amendments@pcusa.org or call (888) 728-7228, ext. 8202.

We invite you to join us in prayer:

Almighty God, we give thanks for a rich heritage of faithful witnesses to the gospel throughout the ages. We offer gratitude not only for those who have gone before us, but for General Assembly commissioners and presbyters across the church who have sought diligently to discern the mind of Christ for the church in every time and place, and especially in this present time.

May your Spirit of peace be present with us in difficult decisions, especially where relationships are strained and the future is unclear. Open our ears and our hearts to listen to and hear those with whom we differ. Most of all, we give thanks for Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord, who called the Church into being and who continues to call us to follow his example of loving our neighbor and working for the reconciliation of the world. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Gradye Parsons
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly

Cynthia Bolbach
Moderator, 219th General Assembly (2010)

Linda Valentine
Executive Director
General Assembly Mission Council

Landon Whitsitt
Vice Moderator, 219th General Assembly (2010)



To Our Graduates!

Franklin Privette	Brandon High School Regan Scholarship Award Recipient Attending MSU in the Fall.
Kendra Bradshaw	Central Michigan University Speech Language Pathology Major
Desiree M. Cook	Central Michigan University Bachelor Science Health Fitness
Cassie Todd	Columbia Seminary Masters in Divinity

Planted by Your living streams
I'll delight in all Your ways,
Hidden by Your sheltering wings
With new mercies for each day.

Even in a dangerous land
When storms threaten to destroy,
At the cross I'll stand upon the Rock
My Strength, my Hope, my Joy.

Dear Lord, show me Your favor,
At all times keep me blessed,
May Your face ever shine upon me,
With peace and perfect rest.

Amen.

Mary Fairchild.

A Graduate's Prayer

Dear Lord,

As I look toward the future
Bright hope conducts this prayer,
For I know the plans You have for me
Were wrought with divine care.

Holy Spirit, lead me.
Let me run at Your command,
Yet be still and know that You are God
When trouble is close at hand.

Your Word will be a lamp for me,
A guide to light my way,
A solid place to set my feet,
A compass when I stray.

May I live my life to praise You,
Not for fortune, nor for fame,
May everything I say and do
Bring glory to Your name.

May my eyes stay fixed upon You
As I seek the way that's pure,
Tasting Your love and goodness
Sleeping and rising secure.

Newsletter Deadline is June 15th ! Bulletin Announcements!

The deadline for our July newsletter will be the 15th of June. The summer months are always hectic for all, with many activities going on. So please make sure that you get your announcements for the newsletter in to the office by the 15th.

Great Lakes Scrips fundraising is Here.

Great Lakes Scrips (Scrips) is a gift card based fundraising program. When you purchase a gift card through Scrips you pay the face value of your gift card but Scrips charges HPC a discounted price. For example, If you purchase a \$100.00 gift card to a gas station, you pay \$100.00 and receive a

\$100.00 worth of gas- line. Scrips however only charges HPC \$92.00 and HPC earns \$8.00 off that one purchase. Discounts range between 2% and 16%.

See Christine Cook or Vicki Lyles for more information. We

will be available on Sunday's to answer your questions and take orders. Orders placed will be available for pick up the following Sunday.



Graduation Gift giving made Easy !

Our church Family Prayer Concerns:

For all those who are shut in. For those seeking comfort and healing. For Peggy Ranger, Jack Smith, Jerry Studer, and Ivah Curle. Please remember if at any time you feel that you or someone you care about is in need of Prayer, HPC, has a prayer chain, that will pray for those who you care about. To start the prayer chain you may call either Jinx at the church office (248)634.9494 if she is not available you may leave a message, she will than contact Roberta Single and the Pastor. The prayer chain will then proceed down the line. If you wish, the person's name will be noted in the weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter, and we will continue to pray for them.

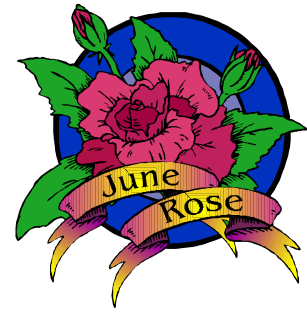
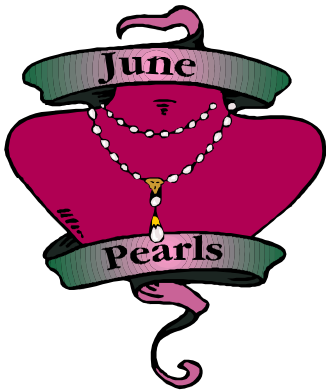


ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Don't miss out on these announcements for the month of June!



- **June 5th**, is Youth Sunday, followed by the Potluck/picnic immediately after Worship services, all of the congregation is encouraged to join us for this event.
- **June 12th**, is **Dress Up Day/Pentecost Sunday** the day we celebrate how the Holy Spirit came with power to the disciples and Christ's church was born. It is also the Sunday in which we will recognize our **Graduates with a graduation tea immediately following our group picture**. And it is **dress up day**, the day we have scheduled for our **new group picture** of our entire congregation. We hope to have as many members come as possible for this big event that will show all who look at the website and other sources what a great looking congregation we have! We want babies, kids, youth, families, adults — young and old, to be in the picture. If you haven't been able to be in church for a while and have found it difficult to get started back—this is a perfect time.
- **Thursday, June 16th**, is movie night in the Fellowship Hall— Join us as we enjoy “ The Ultimate Gift” showing begins at 7:00 pm— popcorn, will be provided.
- **June 18th**, Memorial service for Dr. Victor Fox at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary.
- **June 19th**, Summer Worship Service begins at **10:00 am** with Contemporary Worship Service. We will Baptize Violet Jo Bird, daughter of Kian and Brandon Bird. **It is also Father's Day**
- **June 19th**, At 4:00 pm the Ordination of **CASSIE TODD** will take place here, followed by a light dinner. Cassie has received a Call to a church In South Carolina, and will be living there after her ordination. We want to congratulate Cassie and are pleased that her ordination will be here in her home church. (All are invited, and if you do plan on attending please try to let to Gerry or Debbie know so they may plan accordingly for the meal.)
- **June 25th, Summer Event** happens here at the Church, from 9 am to 5 pm— Food, snacks, bouncers and more fun and exciting things for children to do! Our very own Tony Book will entertain us with his Green Screen and musical talents!



2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 AYSO—7:00 pm	3	4
5 9:30AM Sun- day School 10:30 AM Wor- ship with Com- munion Youth Sunday/ Pot Luck Picnic fol- lowing Worship	6 AA/Alanon Worship Com- mittee meet- ing at 6:30	7 Presbytery Meeting at FPC in Alma Congrega- tional Care meeting 7:00 in Fellowship hall.	8	9 AYSO—7:00 pm	10	11
12 10:30 AM Worship Graduation Tea Pentecost Sun- day Congregational Picture	13 AA/Alanon	14	15	16 Movie Night “ THE ULTI- MATE GIFT” @ 7:00 p.m. AYSO—7:00 pm	17	18 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Victor Fox
19 Summer Wor- ship/Contemporary Service begins at 10:00 4:00 Ordination of Cassie Todd /fol- lowed by a light dinner	20 AA/Alanon	21 First Day of Summer! Session Meeting 7:00 pm	22	23 AYSO—7:00 pm	24	25 Kids Summer Fun Fest — 12pm to 6 pm
26 10:00 Worship Service.	27 AA/Alanon	28	29 Christian Education Committee meeting 7pm	30 AYSO—7:00 pm		

Holly Presbyterian Church

Holly Presbyterian Church
207 E Maple St
Holly MI 48442

Phone: 248-634-9494
Fax: 248-634-8595
E-mail: office@hollypc.org



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

We're on the web.
www.hollypc.org



Coming Events Please Mark your Calendar!



July

Just two years ago we celebrated our 150th birthday bash! July marks our 152nd! Lakeside park is where we will celebrate so bring the family, remind others who you have not seen in awhile, extend the invitation to your neighbor, to come along as we enjoy our longevity and celebrate our birthday in style!



August

On Friday August 12th the 8th Annual Reunion With a Cause will take place at Holly High School, Holly Presbyterian is proud to have a team that is lead by Jim and Roberta Single, please join them in the continued fight against cancer and help support those in Holly who need your help. See Roberta to sign up!

Sunday August 14th Ice Cream Social & lite lunch here at HPC after Worship!



October

This is just a reminder to all crafty individuals who wish to contribute to the fall auction to not let the summer months fly by, be ready October 23rd will be here before we realize it !

**Fall Auction!
Planning &
Preparation!**