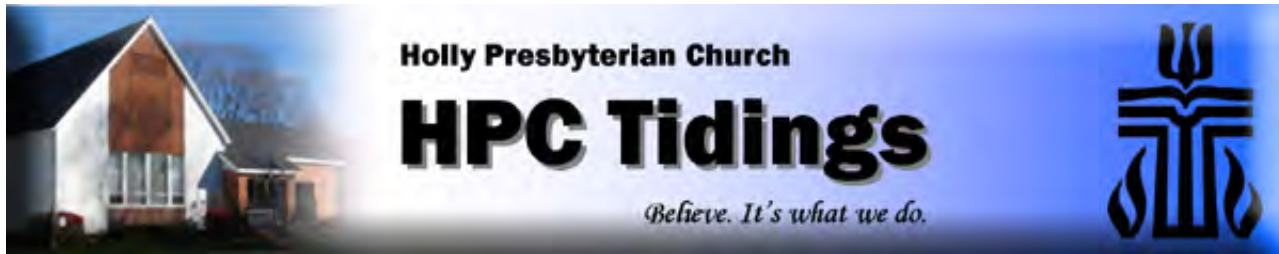


Holly Presbyterian Church

Issue No. 12.11



Reflections from Your Pastor. . .

The Light

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.

Isaiah 9:2

In the midst of all the Christmas shopping, the rush of getting ready for the big day - decorating, baking, wrapping, planning - we, in the church are also busy. Of course, we are people who experience all the joys and busy-ness of the season, yet, even in the midst of all that busy-ness, we try to pause and reflect on what the season of Advent is all about. Rather than rush right into Christmas, we want to take time to consider again what the meaning of Christmas is. Unto us a child is born, the Scripture says, and we celebrate that divine birth - that breaking through of God to earth, known to us as the Incarnation -the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Christmas is a celebration of Christ coming to us. And you shall call his name Emmanuel - meaning God with us. But also, his name shall be called Jesus - the one who saves.

Yet, Advent is also a time to remember that Jesus is continuously coming to us. Christ has come. Christ is coming. Christ will come again. We are on a special watch during Advent - watching for the signs of His coming; watching for the places we find His presence breaking through. We are getting ready - not just for Christmas and all its glory, but for the coming of the Christ in new and particular areas of our lives. In Advent we have hope that we will experience His coming anew; we prepare ourselves for receiving Him and recognizing the signs of His coming; we know great joy because of His salvation; we long for His peace over all the world; we know and spread the love of Christ to all who are

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**HPC ANNUAL
Fenton Ambassadors
Show Choir Concert**

December 4th, 2011
7:00pm

Reception immediately
following performance



EVENTS CALENDAR

DEC 1 DECORATING CHURCH
DEC 2 DECORATING CHURCH
DEC 3 DECORATING CHURCH

looking for the Light.

Arise and shine, people of God. The Light of the world is coming anew!

Hope, Peace, Joy and Love!
Pastor Sharlyn

EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP

For anyone interested in exploring membership at Holly Presbyterian Church we will be planning a time to meet Pastor Sharlyn. If you are interested in joining us please contact the church office by calling 248-634-9494 or sending an email to

office@hollypc.org

AVNEE'S ANGELS



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP : A time for parents and grandparents, who have lost a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion, or early infant death to reflect, pray and honor these babies. The group will meet at 6:30pm on Tuesday evenings. For more information please contact Mandie Banks at 248-249-4343 or the church office at 248-634-9494

- DEC 4 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am
- DEC 4 WORSHIP 10:30 am
- DEC 4 AA MTG 3:00pm
- DEC 4 AMBASSADOR'S 7:00pm
- DEC 5 AA & ALANON 7:30pm
- DEC 6 WORSHIP MTG 7:00pm
- DEC 11 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am
- DEC 11 WORSHIP 10:30pm
- DEC 11 FOLLOW THE STAR PARTY after Worship
- DEC 11 AA MTG 3:00pm
- DEC 12 AA & ALANON 7:30pm
- DEC 13 AVNEE'S ANGELS 6:30pm
- DEC 13 SESSION MTG 7:00pm
- DEC 15 NWSLTR DEADLINE
- DEC 17 BABY PANTRY OPEN
- DEC 18 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am
- DEC 18 WORSHIP 10:30am
- DEC 18 AA MTG 3:00pm
- DEC 19 AA & ALANON 7:30pm
- DEC 20 AVNEE'S ANGELS 6:30pm
- DEC 24 CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 900pm
- DEC 25 WORSHIP 10:30am
- DEC 25 AA MTG 3:00pm
- DEC 26 AA & ALANON MTG 7:30pm
- DEC 27 AVNEE'S ANGELS 6:30pm



In the Beginning Baby Pantry Upcoming Dates

- Dec. 17, 10am - 2pm
- Jan. 21, 10am - 2pm

Items that are needed:

- Toddler Size clothing: Winter clothes & Outerwear.
- Blanket Sleepers
- Diapers are needed in sizes #4 - #6
- Wipes and Baby Wash.



Good News of Great Joy

A cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Because Advent and Christmas shine a light not only on our world's greatest hope but also on our world's greatest need, the PC(USA) provides this timely opportunity for congregations to support causes specifically designed to bring Good News of Great Joy to the poor in circumstance or spirit. Alongside the message of promise and fulfillment in Luke's Gospel, we also hear the clear call to God's people to respond in faith as Christ calls us: "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded" (Luke 12:48). Undesignated gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will be distributed equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to support student scholarships at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

We will be collecting this special offering on December 18th and 24th this year. Envelopes will be provided those weeks.



MITTENS 4 KIDS

If you are planning on donating any items please keep these sizes in mind. **TFC appreciates the support you are giving to this important mission!**



There are number of small fundraisers that are ongoing efforts. Each opportunity offers easy participation!



Bring in used ink jet cartridges and old cell phones to the church and we will send them in to Phone Raiser who recycles them and pays us for them. There is a basket in the Narthex.



Order Scrip Gift Cards for merchants that you are already shopping with and the church can receive a percentage back

Our HPC Gathering Place Kids will be collecting mittens and hats for local children again this year. We will also collect infant and toddler size hats and mittens for the baby pantry. Please consider sharing the gift of warmth with a little one by picking up a pair of mittens, gloves, or hat while you are doing your Christmas shopping! There will be a drop-off location in the Narthex beginning December 4th.



COMMUNITY MEMORIAL SERVICE

On December 5th at 7:00pm Dryer Funeral Home will host its annual memorial service for anyone in the community who would like to attend. Ornaments can be made that evening to hang on the tree in memory of a loved one.

Rev. Sharlyn Gates be will giving the message.



**INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH
FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**

Christmas is an exciting and beautiful time of year here at HPC, making it the perfect time to invite someone to experience this family of faith. Please extend warm and welcoming invitations to anyone that you feel might enjoy visiting!

from the merchant.



Check out Good Search and help the church earn money

FYI

MID WEEK BIBLE STUDY:

The Men's and Women's groups will be taking a break in their studies over the holidays. Watch for start up dates in January!

FOOD PANTRY ALERT:

The food need for people in our community continues to grow. We are continuing to help the food pantry at Holly First Baptist Church. Please bring canned and boxed goods to the Narthex each week.



FOLLOW THE STAR PARTY

On December 11th at 11:45 am The Christian Education Team invites everyone to join us for a Happy Birthday Jesus Party! We will have a light lunch, enjoy some creative projects, and best of all Cake! Don't miss this opportunity for fun and fellowship!

* The kids will rehearse for the Dec 18th Worship Service during this time also. Any children that would like to participate in the pageant are welcome!

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP PAGEANT

The Gathering Place Kids and the TFC will be presenting the Worship Service and Message "Follow the Star" on December 18th at 10:30 am. Don't miss this charming and meaningful service filled with music, scripture, a wonderful message and even a bit of humor! Any children that would like to participate in the pageant are welcome!

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