



Holly Presbyterian Church

# HPC Tidings

*Believe. It's what we do.*



March 2012

## *Lenten Reflections from your pastor ...*

*A year ago at this time, Fred and I moved to Holly to begin life in Michigan. We moved in just before Ash Wednesday and started our life with you as our church family just as we all began the 40 days of the Lenten Journey.*

*Can you believe a whole year has gone by? March 1st marks our 1 year anniversary. I continue to give thanks to our great God for the blessing of bringing me here as your pastor.*

*So, here we are again. We started the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday on February 22 with the ashes smeared on the forehead in the shape of a cross, a symbol of our willingness to enter this wilderness experience of penitence and reflection. Like the palms from last year's Palm Sunday that had dried up and withered, our spirits can become the same ... dried and withered ... in need of revival. Lent is a time to recognize that dry place and to seek renewal once again. It is a time to look inward, to examine our hearts, minds and spirits and see what might be there that is in the way of our closeness to the One who gives us life.*

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### The Baby Pantry is Growing!



***In the Beginning* is open on the second and fourth Fridays of each month, in addition to the third Saturday.**

#### **March Dates & Times**

Friday, Mar 9th  
10:00am - 12:00pm

Saturday, Mar 17th  
10:00am - 2:00pm

Friday, Mar 23rd  
10:00am - 12:00pm

*Many people make a commitment during Lent to sacrifice something that is important to them. They choose to fast from a food or drink they are especially fond of; to do without for the 40 days of Lent, in order to make a sacrifice to God, remembering the sacrifice Jesus made for us.*

*Some choose to fast from other things in their lives that have taken a front seat in priorities - things like electronics (TV, iPod's, internet) - things that take our time and focus away from our time with God.*

*Others choose to add something - like more regularity in physical exercise, or making space for more prayer time or silent meditation. Creating space to be more focused on just being with the Father becomes a priority.*

*I've often thought it would be really great to have all the congregation focus together on one particular fast or adding some action that was important. I've wondered if it would work to ask us to focus on stewardship of our bodies and the earth for Lent - to focus on healthy eating, rest, exercise, to recycle, preserve water, electricity, food - thinking more about how we use our earth's resources and wondering how we might make a change for the good.*

*Lent is a time when we remember what Jesus did for us - going through horrendous suffering and then dying on a cruel cross for our sins. We remember his sacrifice and his love and mercy and passionate determination to provide for us what we could not provide for ourselves - forgiveness of sin, salvation, eternal life.*



## **OUR CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER CONCERNS**

For all those who are in nursing homes, shut in, or seeking comfort and healing.

For Dan Nash, Pat Frank, Ardath Regan, Margaret Rainey, Joey Olson, Margaret House, Judy Studer, Marjorie Smith, Beth Dryer, Bill and Mary Renico, Gary and Lynn Wallis, Mark and Del Ridley, and young man named Travis.

For all those struggling financially due to job loss and economic setbacks.

For our service men and women, and national and world leaders.

## **Digging Deeper Study**



Digging Deeper is on hiatus through out Lent

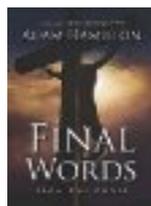
*We could so easily skip over the work of Lent and move right to Easter without hardly thinking of all these things. But if we do, we are the ones who lose. Easter does not hold the miraculous joy that we find when we've done our soul-searching work of Lent. We are Easter people. We know what happens in the story. But the missing piece is our own life. And each year, there is bound to be something new that we need to examine before moving into Resurrection Sunday.*

*I pray you will find this season to be full of meaning and will come to Easter with a renewed spirit and true joy in realizing how much God loves you and shows that in God's Son - Jesus Christ!*

*Peace and Grace!  
Rev. Sharlyn*

### **LENTEN STUDY**

The Final Words 5 week study will be held Thursdays at 7:00pm beginning on March 1st



#### **"Final Words:From the Cross"**

Stand at the foot of the cross and take Jesus' dying words into your heart! In his 5-week study, Hamilton introduces the people who heard Christ's last statements and invites you to reflect on the meaning of "Father, forgive them"; "My God, why have you forsaken me?"; and other Scripture verses as you journey through Lent.

and will resume in May. This monthly coed study gathers together men and women into one group on the first Thursday of the month, where we discuss more in-depth topics about the history behind our faith. We are currently listening to and discussing a series of lectures about the writing of the New Testament (or the New Covenant). Who really wrote what, when were things put down in writing, and why was the original text written in Greek rather than Aramaic are some of the things we are considering.

The 1st Thursday of every month @ 7:00pm

Leader: Barb Brown



**COLLECTING USED  
CELL PHONES & INK  
JET CARTRIDGES!**



## 2012 Ecumenical One Great Hour of Sharing Video

### *One Great Hour of Sharing* *Sharing resources, changing lives*

*Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with those in need. Your generous gifts assist those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and help build strong communities. Our congregation will receive this offering on Palm Sunday April 1st and Easter Sunday April 8th.*



### **All New Ordering Schedule!**

Great Lakes Scrip Program is a simply and easy way to support Holly Presbyterian Church.

Here's how it works:

- On the First Sunday of each month order your gift cards at face value to your favorite restaurant, retail store,



If you have old cell phones, or empty ink jet cartridges that you want to get rid of we can help! The church is collecting these items as part of the "Phoneraiser" fundraising program. We collect the items and mail them in to Phoneraiser, who checks the phones and pays us for any functioning phones and useabel ink cartridges and then properly recycles the unusable items. This great program provides us with a no-cost, easy fundraiser, and a way to be good stewards of God's creation by protecting groundwater that would be contaminated by the chemicals in these items. A drop box is in the narthex.



gas station, movie theater, etc. (the list is endless)

- On the Second Sunday of each month you will receive your order.
- The church will earn, on average, 4-5% of the face value of the cards ordered.

The Stewardship committee hopes everyone will prayerfully consider supporting this fundraising program. Please see the order form that has been included with your bulletin.

Orders can be turned into the Great Lakes Scrip table on the first Sunday of each month, or placed in the offering plate. If you have any questions please see Christine Cook, Vicki Lyles or Kay VanderKuy.

Thank you for your support!

## MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

Mar 1 LENTEN STUDY: FINAL WORDS 7:00pm

Mar 3 ALL CHURCH WORK DAY 9am - 3pm

Mar 4 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am

WORSHIP 10:30am

AA 3:00pm

TFC MEAL & STUDY 5:00pm

AA AND ALANON 7:00pm

Mar 5 AA AND ALANON 7:00pm

Mar 6 TECHNOLOGY MTG 7:00pm

Mar 7 WORSHIP MTG 7:00pm

Mar 8 YOGA GROUP 6:15pm- Evening Practice

LENTEN STUDY: FINAL WORDS 7:00pm

Mar 9 BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm

ALMA YOUTH MIX

Mar 10 ALMA YOUTH MIX

Mar 11 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am

WORSHIP 10:30am

WELCOME SPRING POTLUCK!

AA 3:00pm

NO TFC MEAL & STUDY

Mar 12 AA AND ALANON 7:00pm

## Save Your VG's Receipts!

Bring your Vg's receipts to church and we can turn them to generate funds though Vg's Community Share Points program. There is a poster with pocket for the receipts in the kitchen.



## YOUR INTERNET SEARCHES CAN HELP THE CHURCH!

Check out Good Search online to find out how! It's SO easy and has great potential to support he ministries here at HPC!



## Annual Garage Sale!

The dates for the 2012 Church Garage Sale are Thursday, May 31st through Saturday, June 2nd. Please save your unwanted items for this important church

Mar 13 STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE 7:00pm  
Mar 14 CHRISTIAN ED. MTG 7:00pm  
Mar 15 YOGA GROUP 6:15pm- EveningPractice  
LENTEN STUDY: FINAL WORDS 7:00pm  
Mar 17 BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 2:00pm  
Mar 18 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am  
WORSHIP 10:30am  
AA 3:00pm  
TFC MEAL & STUDY 5:00pm  
Mar 19 AA AND ALANON 7:00pm  
Mar 20 PROPERTY MTG 7:00pm  
Mar 22 YOGA GROUP 6:15pm- EveningPractice  
LENTEN STUDY: FINAL WORDS 7:00pm  
AYSO 7:30pm  
Mar 23 BABY PANTRY 10:00am - 12:00pm  
Mar 25 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00am  
WORSHIP 10:30am  
AA 3:00pm  
NO TFC MEAL & STUDY  
Mar 26 AA AND ALANON 7:00pm  
Mar 27 SESSION MTG 7:00pm  
Mar 28 AVNEE'S ANGELS GRIEF SUPPORT 6:30PM  
Mar 29 YOGA GROUP 6:15pm- EveningPractice  
LENTEN STUDY: FINAL WORDS 7:00pm

fundraiser. We will be announcing when and where items can be stored at the church. Mark your calendars to help during set up and pricing the May 28th-30th.

## FYI. . . .Rev. Sharlyn's Vacation

Rev. Sharlyn will be on vacation to visit family from March 17th through March 23rd. If you need pastoral care during that time please contact the church office at 248-634-9494 or after hours Laura Parker at 248-634-2773 (home). Please be praying for Rev. Sharlyn's travels, that they be joyful and uneventful, bringing her safely home again.

### Holly Presbyterian Church

A member of Lake Huron Presbytery, Presbyterian Church USA  
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### Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm & 1:00pm - 3:00pm Office Closed on Monday

**Minister: The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn DeHaven Gates**

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E-Mail: [pastor@hollypc.org](mailto:pastor@hollypc.org)