



Holly Presbyterian Church Newsletter

December 2014

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



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Join Our Mailing List!



BOILER FUND BAKE SALE!

Support this
important cause by
baking or buying!

This Sunday, on Dec
9th, the Fellowship
Team's popular
fundraiser bake sale
will be held before
and after worship.

Beth Dryer, Cathie

What an amazing gift you gave to me for Pastor Appreciation day! I love the beautiful communion set. If you haven't seen it, please drop by my office and take a look. It is very meaningful to me that it was made for the General Assembly that was in Detroit this past June. It is even more meaningful that it was given by all of you in love. I also appreciate the generous gift of money that you gave to me. Thank you so very much!

At this time of year, we are all beginning to think a lot about gifts, aren't we? I'm excited about the gifts I already have found for my daughter and grandchildren. I can hardly wait to give them to them! I keep thinking maybe I will do it at Thanksgiving and not wait for Christmas. But, I think I can wait.

Of course, we have the most wonderful gifts given to us from God and we celebrate the best one of all as we think of Jesus' birth - Immanuel, God with us!

Advent will begin on Sunday, November 30th, and we will start an exciting new Advent program, Under Wraps: The Gift We Never Expected. Prepared and piloted by The Woodlands United Methodist Church in Houston, this joyful program explores some of God's unexpected qualities, presented over the four weeks of Advent, plus a fifth week for Christmas:

1. God Is Expectant
2. God Is Dangerous
3. God Is Jealous
4. God Is Faithful
5. A Season of Joy

Just as the first wrapped gift beneath the Christmas tree marks the new season, so the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day signaled that

Killewald and Margaret Perry are this month's contact persons. Let them know if you can help.

Adopt-A-Family Christmas Outreach Project



We will be doing our annual Christmas Adopt a Family mission again this year.

The gift tag boards are now displayed in the narthex. Please bring your wrapped gifts to church by December 21st.

Gifts will be delivered on Christmas Eve

GET YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKED



Sunday, December 14th after worship. Nurse Karen will be available to check your blood pressure. This is great, because you know you are way

God's hope and salvation and redemption plan had come into the world. In Jesus, God gift-wrapped himself in human flesh and was born in a stable so he could come and live among us and offer us life and salvation that we could never gain on our own.

Under Wraps will include special sermons and worship activities. I hope you will join us this Advent as we unwrap God's greatest gift, our Savior Jesus.

Hope, Peace, Joy and Love!

Rev. Sharlyn



Reflections from Pastor Shaun...

Christmas is such an exciting time with all the colorful lights, watching young children open presents, and hearing the story about a baby being born. In case you have forgotten the story about the baby, let me refresh your memory.

After trying for ten years to have a child and knowing they would not be renewing their home study, to adopt a child Michele and Shaun changed the color of the nursery and began giving everything away that was related to a baby. Then one day Michele received a call from the adoption agency saying a baby girl was born. The agency went on to tell Michele they would call her back that same day to let her know if the mother was willing to sign her rights way to the baby? Excited but guarded Michele and Shaun waited together on the telephone until they both agreed to hang up after waiting thirty minutes past the agreed upon time to hear back from the agency. Then within five minutes of hanging up the telephone Michele and Shaun received a call saying the mother had signed the paper work.

too much turkey!
Have your blood
pressure checked to
make sure yours is
okay.

Our Missionary Updates. . .



Univ. of Michigan
Athletes in Action
missionaries, Colby
and Sarah Keefer,
continue to reach
college athletes in
the name of Christ.

To catch up with
them and their
latest news click the
link below.

[Kefer November
Newsletter](#)



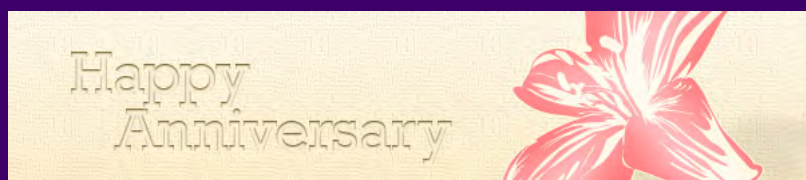
This Christmas please say a prayer for all of
the couples waiting to adopt a child and for
the mothers or couples who have to make the
very difficult decision to give up their child for
adoption.

God Bless-Shaun



Happy Birthday to these Children of God!

Dec 1 Amie Davis
Dec 3 Walt Brown
Dec 5 Max Muenzer
Dec 6 Violet Bird
Dec 11 Gordie Bradshaw
Dec 21 Harriett Striggow
Dec 23 Georgia Felch
Dec 23 Margaret House
Dec 28 Vicki Lyles
Dec 29 Abby Hardimon
Dec 30 Kati Whalen



Dec 4 Gerry & Debbie Jackson 32 Years. May
God continue to bless your marriage!



STEWARDSHIP NEWS

The Stewardship Committee is
working on the upcoming budget
for 2014, and appreciates the
pledges and commitments made
of time, talents & resources made by the HPC

OPERATION TRANSIT!

CRU missionaries, Allen and DeeDee Iobst, continue to reach people in the name of Christ and distribute bibles.

To catch up with them and their latest news click the link below.

[Campus Crusade for Christ Operation Transit Website](#)

[Iobst November Newsletter](#)

Family.

Thank you for your faithful support of ministries that we all love.

Year-to-date
(October 31st, 2014) Income/Expenses
Holly Presbyterian Church Financial Summary:

Income	
October \$11,199.32	YTD \$ 112,761.62

Expenses	
October \$10,851.05	YTD \$ 112,385.38



Sunday School & Study Opportunities!

The Gathering Place for Kids
Now meets during worship following the children's sermon!



Our kids program uses the Spark Activate Faith curriculum and is a Workshop Rotation modeled classroom where our kids get to explore their faith through, art, science, cooking, computers, games, stories, music & drama!

[Register your family and Check it out!](#)
<http://hollypc.sparksundayschool.org>

***Special Multi Media Children's Worship Service
Sunday, December 14th***



Under Wraps: A Gift We Never Expected!
As interpreted by our amazing youth!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 2014-2015
Sunday Mornings at 9:30 am
(Child Care provided)

"Comparative Religions" is our current topic. What do the basic tenants of the world's five major religions and philosophies have in common? We will be studying the way these markedly different belief systems have set up their moral codes, showing the great number of similarities, and a number of the differences between them, and looking at how each of the systems currently influences the actions of nations on the world stage.

MEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Come out on Wednesday's at 7:00pm for the Men's Bible Study, "The Disciples". This is a great time of fellowship and learning. Randy Cook is leading.

WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH!
Weekly at 12:00 noon

The Lunch Bunch meets at noon on Wednesday for an informal Bible study. Charlee Litten is the leader for this study and does a great job of helping look at the scriptures in new ways and with great joy and humor! Everyone is welcome to attend when ever they are able, just bring your bible if you have one (We have loaners too!) and little something for your lunch!

December Calendar of Events



Dec 5 BABY PANTRY 10am-12pm

Dec 7 2nd Sunday of Advent

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 am

FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am

WORSHIP 11:00am

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 12PM

AA 3:00PM

FENTON AMBASSADORS IN CONCERT 7:00PM

Dec 8 AA & ALANON 7:30PM

Dec 9 FRIENDS WITH NEEDS OUTREACH 12pm-4pm

TEAM PARTY NIGHT 6:30pm

****early JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE early****

Dec 10 FRIENDS WITH NEEDS OUTREACH 12pm-4pm

LUNCH BUNCH 12pm-1pm

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY (DVD DISCIPLES) 7pm

Dec 11 FRIENDS WITH NEEDS OUTREACH 12pm-4pm

Dec 13 BABY PANTRY 10am-2pm

FAMILY FUN FAIR 1:00PM - 3:00PM

Dec 14 3rd Sunday of Advent

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 am

FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am

BAKE SALE

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK BY NURSE KAREN

WORSHIP 11:00am
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT-"UNDER WRAPS"
AA 3:00PM

Dec
15 AA & ALANON 7:30PM

Dec
16 FRIENDS WITH NEEDS OUTREACH 12pm-4pm
SESSION 7pm

Dec
17 FRIENDS WITH NEEDS OUTREACH 12pm-4pm
LUNCH BUNCH 12pm-1pm
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY (DVD DISCIPLES) 7pm

Dec
18 FRIENDS WITH NEEDS OUTREACH 12pm-4pm

Dec
19 BABY PANTRY 10am-12pm

Dec
21 4th Sunday of Advent

First Day of Winter
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 am
FELLOWSHIP & COFFEE 10:30am
WORSHIP 11:00am
AA 3:00PM

22-
Dec AA & ALANON 7:30PM

23-
Dec FRIENDS WITH NEEDS OUTREACH 12pm-4pm Christmas
Party

Dec
24 CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 8:00PM

Dec
25 CHRISTMAS DAY-HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS

OFFICE CLOSED 24TH THRU JANUARY 1ST

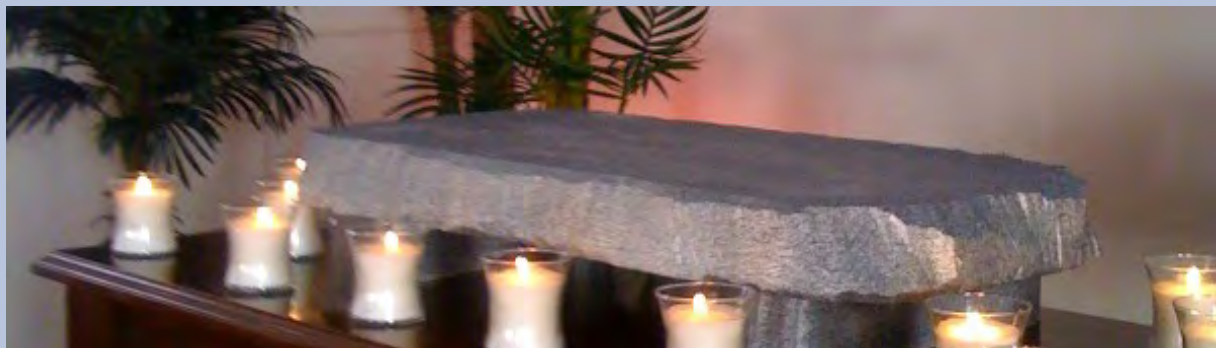
Praying for our church family . . .

Prayers of Concern

- For those serving or who have served us and our country in military service.
- For all those who are in nursing homes, shut in, or seeking comfort and healing.
- For Beatrice Johnston, Raelene Morgan, Brian Palmero, Maxine Bolyea, Kennedy Todd, Jaymi Whalen, Pamela Lender, Ron Mikulak, Beth Krauss, Rev. Mark Knisley, Dan Nash, Dan Goodearl, Jim DeHaven, Fred Gates, Marjorie Smith, Connie "C.J" Brummeler, Bernice Schettling, Sharon Lowes, Jerry Litten, the family of Shannon Cook, Harriett Striggow, LeAnn Book, Jennifer Chanter, Ethel Weithoff, Jan Owens, Rachel Sparling and family.

Prayers of Joy

- With expectant, and hope filled hearts, we offer prayers of adoration to our Lord for the blessings and challenges we have experienced this year.



Prayer Requests from the Lake Huron Presbytery:

- Elder Vicky Bright (Sandusky) and her family. Her daughter Jessica, son-in-law Chris Sampson and their two daughters lost their home to a fire last week. They were unharmed but sadly this is the second fire in five years that has happened to them. Ongoing, Vicky's son Kris Noble, was in a very serious accident this summer and while he's doing as well as expected at this point, he still has a long journey to a full recovery ahead of him.
- Ben & Shelby Offrink, son and daughter in-law of the Rev. Jim Offink (HR) Ben has had a relapse of Hodgkin's lymphoma and is

receiving chemotherapy. Shelby has been battling cancer for quite awhile and now battling the very painful pancreatitis. Shelby and Ben have two young daughters.

- Gwen & John Haspels Mission Co-Workers, who were injured earlier this month, when their car was attacked by armed bandits on a rural road in Ethopia.
- Elder Peggy Ronk, Commissioned Ruler of Breckenridge-Emerson, and her family. Both Peggy and various close family members of hers are experiencing significant health issues.



Order Scrip for the Holiday!

Order December 7 - Delivery December 14

These make excellent Christmas gifts.

We receive a small profit from the sale of each card, which goes toward our everyday expenses. The church should net approximately \$500 this year from this easy fundraiser.

In addition to the gas, grocery, and restaurant cards that most of us order throughout the year, there are also gift cards available for many major retail stores, amazon.com, and iTunes.

Look at the complete list of cards available by
[Clicking Here](#)

If you do not feel comfortable using a computer, talk to Christine Cook or Vicki Lyles and we can let you know if what you want is available. Thank you for your support!!

VG'S SHARE PROGRAM!

VG's grocery store has a new program that will replace the Community Share Points Program we are familiar with now. Please click on the link below to see how you can participate going forward. If you have further questions please see Jan Bradshaw.



[Click Here!](#)

Property Update:



We are blessed in a big way! We have seen many changes in the past few weeks as new carpeting has been installed in the Fellowship Hall, and our new audio visual system is now being installed in the Sanctuary! Come to church soon and see all the great progress! Thanks to everyone who has helped with these projects!

Annual Fenton Ambassadors Concert



We are blessed to once again host the
Fenton High School Show Choir
"The Ambassadors"
Sunday, December 7th at 7:00 pm
207 E. Maple St. Holly

Please join us and invite your friends for an evening of music and fellowship. Refreshments will be served.

We have a sign up sheet if you will like to volunteer to bring cookies, cheese, crackers, etc. for snacks for this great event.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



IT'S FAMILY FUN FAIR TIME!

Join us on Saturday, December 13th
1:00pm - 3:00pm

Our *"Under Wraps: The Gift We Never Expected!"*
Christmas Family Fun Fair
is a free indoor event at HPC.

Enjoy Crafts, Games & Prizes, a Cupcake Walk, Service projects
and a Multi Media Story time! Let's Un-Wrap this unexpected gift! Do
you know what it might inside?

Invite your friends, family and neighbors
to this free family event for all.

If you are interested in helping with the event, please let Christine
Cook 248-887-2012 or Laura Parker 248-245-5348 know.



SCHWANS CARES FUNDRAISER!

We are taking part in a new
fundraising opportunity,
providing members & friends a chance to support the
ministries and facilities of HPC by purchasing food through
the Schwans Food Service. You will be able to order online

or by phone, and have the groceries delivered directly to your home. The church will receive 20% of any orders placed between November 28th and January 4th at: Our church's custom fundraiser page by [clicking here](#) or by calling 1-855-870-7208 and reference Campaign ID 17288 *Electronic Gift Certificates can be purchased as well, with 40% revenue back to the church!* Instruction sheets are inserted inside the catalogs located on the narthex table. An additional 5% will come back to the church for any orders that those participating place through November 28, 2015. Instruction sheets are inserted inside the catalogs located on the narthex table.

In the Beginning News!

Prayer requests from our families



- Pray for all those in difficult relationships, struggling with emotional and physical abuse, and self doubt. May they be comforted by the love of Christ.
- Pray for young families facing custody conflicts - may they find peace and resolution.
- Pray for those parents who are not getting enough hours on their work schedules.
- Pray for those parents who are seeking work.

UPCOMING DATES: Fri. Dec. 12, 10am - 12pm
Sat. Dec. 20, 10am - 2pm
Fri. Dec. 26, 10am - 12pm

Items we need include: Diapers, Kleenex, wipes, lotions, baby wash & diaper rash cream!

If you feel called to this ministry please see a Judy Studer, Christine Cook, or Laura Parker.

*"And he took the Children in his arms, put His hands on them
and blessed them."*

Mark 10:16

For Your Information. . .

- If you have something that you would like included in the newsletter please submit it to the church office by the 15th of the month prior. Thanks!
- If you are not receiving the Email Newsletter and other e-updates and would like to, please call the office at 248-634-9494 and we would be happy to add your email to our list!
- If you have had a change of phone, email or mailing address in the past year, we would like to know so that we can make sure everyone's contact information is current in our database.

Supporting Missions . . .



The Keefer Family-Athletes in Action
Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor, Mi

The Iobst Family- Operations Transit
Algeciras, Spain
(Both Working Under Campus Crusade for Christ)

Grace Centers of Hope
Pontiac, Mi

Ennis Foundation
Pontiac, Mi

HPC Christmas - Adopt a Family

In the Beginning Baby Pantry
Forgotten Harvest Food Pantry
Holly, Mi

Your 2014 Session

Class of 2014

Karen Haneline	Outreach	(248) 634-7339
Judy Studer	Outreach	(248) 634-8918
Margaret Perry	Worship	(810) 735-7692

Class of 2015

Charlee Litten	Personnel	(810) 694-0095
Dessalee Cook	Worship	(248) 634-5680
Jim Lyles	Clerk	(248) 634-4610
Walt Brown	Technology	(810) 869-4883

Class of 2016

Christine Cook	Christian Education	(248) 887-2012
Lori Goldsmith	Property	(810) 397-9722
Bob Killewald	Finance	(248) 310-2410

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn Gates 248.369.8893(h)
620.423.2671(c)

Assoc. Pastor: Shaun Hardimon 810.635.0586(h)
586.292.8772(c)