



HPC Connections

Knowing, Growing, Sharing, and Serving

November 2015



Reflections From Your Pastor

Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21

November is such a special month. I love this time of year with all the pumpkins, acorns, fall decorations, and of course, good food! I've always looked forward to Thanksgiving. I know I've shared with you before, but I have great memories of all of my family and me piling into the car with mom's contributions to the Thanksgiving dinner in the trunk, singing "Over the River and Through the Woods to Grandmother's House We go!" The enticing aroma of turkey and dressing and pumpkin pie made it very hard to stay out of the

kitchen while my grandmother, great grandmother and my mom finished things up for the Great Meal.

We made a big deal out of giving thanks, too. Before we could eat, each person around the table had a card with a psalm of thanksgiving, hand printed by my grandmother, that we read aloud. And then the prayer. For smaller children it was almost unbearable, waiting to dig in to the bounty before us!

Fred and I have so much to be thankful for! He is so much stronger since we found our wonderful doctor who has filled up 11 fractures that were causing so much pain! We love our church family here in Holly and of course, we are so blessed with our children and grandchildren, near and far.

November is also the month when we turn our focus to stewardship. Jesus said "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Of course, stewardship is about so much more than just giving money. It's about giving our time, serving others, working towards furthering the Kingdom of God on earth. Stewardship is about sharing our talents and gifts and it is about taking care of the earth, God's beautiful creation, entrusted to us as His stewards.

But money is of great importance. It is an outward sign of grateful thanksgiving for what God has blessed us with, as we give back by supporting the ministries of Christ's church. It is a sign of our trust that God is in control and that we know He will provide for us. The Apostle Paul said, "God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others." - 2 Corinthians 9:6-9 (CEV)

On November 8th, we will dedicate our Stewardship Commitment Pledge cards for the ministry of the church. Of course, you can give without making a pledge, but when you write down what you intend to give, it is very helpful in the ministry planning for the coming year. Your offerings provide a safe, beautiful building to worship and study in; resources for worship and Christian education, mission projects, a trained staff and the leadership and care of a pastor.

Will you join me and others as we bring our written pledges to worship on November 8th so we can joyfully commit them to the Lord? We can trust that we will have so many blessings from God as we generously and faithfully give back to Him a portion of what God has given to us.

Peace and Grace!
Sharlyn

November 9th is Stewardship Commitment Sunday

Bring your pledges of tithes and offerings so we can consecrate them to the Lord.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Cor. 9:7



Links to help give to those in need and disaster relief:

Educate a Child/Transform the World initiative:



<https://www.pcusa.org/news/2015/8/14/educate-child-transform-world/>

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to help Syrian Refugees:

<http://pda.pcusa.org/page/refugee/>

Click on How to Help in the tools at top and click on GIVE



Jerry Hardy and his wife, Tracey, evacuate their family from floodwaters near Conway, South Carolina.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance responds to Southeast coastal flooding

The Southeast coast is experiencing severe and unprecedented flooding. At its height, more than 400 roads, 150 bridges and two major interstates (I-20 and I-95) were closed, isolating the communities that were most in need of comfort and assistance. South Carolina has borne the brunt of the devastation, enduring what has been described as a 1,000-year flood, and for some, more is still to come.

While South Carolina is the area most recently experiencing severe flooding, other parts of the country, including Texas, are still struggling to recover from massive floods that impacted multiple counties and left numerous Presbyterian churches damaged. As the rains finally subside in South Carolina and essential aid begins to

arrive, we pray for a community of healing and hope for all those in the midst of this adversity.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is walking alongside impacted mid councils to bring God's hope and healing to all affected by flooding. Gifts from One Great Hour of Sharing are helping Presbyterian congregations as they reach out to their affected communities to provide emergency provisions like water, food and other supplies to neighbors in need. Members of the PDA National Response Team have been helping with assessments, connecting with long-term recovery groups and serving as a present witness of the larger church during this difficult time.

For more information, visit www.presbyterianmission.org/pda.

Give

Financial support for relief efforts can be to www.pcusa.org/pds designed to DR000191 to help address the needs of those impacted by the flooding. Gifts can be made online; or by phone at 1-800-872-3283, weekdays between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. (EST); or by check, mail to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Act

Learn how your congregation can help families who have lost everything in the devastation. Stay informed and like us on Facebook download resources.

Pray

Pray for families impacted by flooding through loss of property and livelihood; for first responders and all others who put themselves in harm's way to care for those impacted; that communities will work together and build stronger relationships and connections; for God's sustaining grace through it all.

For more information, visit www.presbyterianmission.org/pda.

We can make a difference. One person at a time.

A Word from Pastor Shaun. . .

We all know the month of November is the month in which we celebrate Thanksgiving by having our friends and family over to eat some turkey and pumpkin pie. Although gathering with friends and family to eat and have fun is important, so is giving thanks for what we have been given throughout the year.

When I look back at what has been accomplished by so many dedicated people in our church I am continually amazed. Wherever you look someone is giving of their time, money, and/or prayers for the church and others, while using some elbow grease to continue to keep the church beautiful and in working order.

With that said I want to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication to Holly Presbyterian Church, while also wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and hoping you will get a chance to rest and share some time with friends and family.

Pastor Shaun



***Calendar of Events
for November 2015***

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday 9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Fellowship and Coffee
11:00 am Worship
3:00 pm AA
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm TFC
7:30 pm AA & Alanon

Monday
Tuesday
thru 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Friends with Needs Outreach
Thursday
Wednesday 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch
7:00 pm Presbyterian Men's Bible Study
7:00 pm Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

Schedule of Additional Events

Nov 1 11:00 am Memorial Sunday

Nov 5 7:00 pm AYSO

Nov 7 11:00 am Jim Hope memorial service at Dryers Funeral Home

Nov 7 12:00 pm Jim Hope memorial luncheon

Nov 8 11:00 am Stewardship Commitment Sunday
12:15 pm Congregational meeting
12:30 pm Fellowship Team meeting - back of Fellowship Hall

Nov 10 6:30 pm Team meeting

Nov 13 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Baby Pantry

Nov 15 November Newsletter articles due on time please
12:00 pm Healthy Check - up

Nov 17 7:00 pm Session meeting

- Nov 18 6:30 pm (Hold) Goldsmith - Fellowship Hall
- Nov 20 1:00 pm Sen. Dave Robertson by Friends with Needs on Mental Illness in Fellowship Hall.
Public invited.
- Nov 21 Baby Pantry 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Nov 25 Cancel Friends with Needs Outreach, & Women's Bible study at 7:00 pm and Lunch Bunch 7:00 pm Presbyterian Men's Bible Study
- Nov 26 & Nov 27 Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov 27 Baby Pantry 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Nov 29 Hanging of the Greens
Poinsettias go on sale
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Finance Team Update



Income and Expenses

Actual Income September \$9,938.96 YTD \$96,393.66

Actual Expense September \$9,852.12 YTD \$104,102.71

Electronic Giving - It's so easy. Give it a try.

Go to www.hollypc.org, scroll to the bottom of the page "electronic online giving", and click on "give now". You will be directed to the

Presbyterian Mission Exchange Website: it will show Holly Presbyterian Church. Choose either one time or recurring. Put in the amount, day of week, start date and end date. The rest is your information (i.e. name, address, credit or debit card information_____). Then press give now. You did it!!

Note: Presbyterian Mission Exchange sends you by email a notification of each contribution you make. Keep these for your records for tax purposes.

Thanks,

Finance Team

Bob Killewald, Vicki Lyles, Brian Parker, Laura Parker and Christine Cook.

Christian Ed Team Update



Adult Sunday School-

Barbara Brown is leading this group in a study of the New Testament. This class meets Sunday at 9:30 am.

TFC (Teens for Christ) -will be meeting Sunday evenings at 6:00pm -8:00pm. Through the end of the year, we are doing a new study, Echo the Story, that will allow teens to discover meaning and a personal identity in the Bible narrative through conversations, meditation, and creativity. If you have questions, please see Sara

Pettit.

Wednesday Lunch Bunch

Wednesday at Noon. We are working on David, then we will dive into the Psalms. All are welcome to join us. Bring a little something for lunch! A good time of fellowship and learning. If you have any questions, please see Charlee Litten.

Presbyterian Men's Bible Study Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall upstairs. The current study is based on select scripture reading followed by discussion. The class is led by Randy Cook.

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study-This is an Advent Study called Prepare! The next study will start on November 4th thru November 18th (Three weeks). It will be a fellowship time and making things for Advent. Please sign up in the Narthex.

From the Lion's Den



I am delighted to be writing my first "Bi-Weekly Brief" post as your Executive Presbyter. I am grateful to CJ Merriman and the General Presbyter Nominating Committee for helping to introduce me to you in the weeks leading up to my election as the September presbytery meeting. As I begin my ministry among you, it is my hope that we can continue to get to know each other better as together we seek to serve Christ more faithfully.

Let me begin by sharing five core convictions that have shaped and guided my ministry, which I shared at the September presbytery meeting:

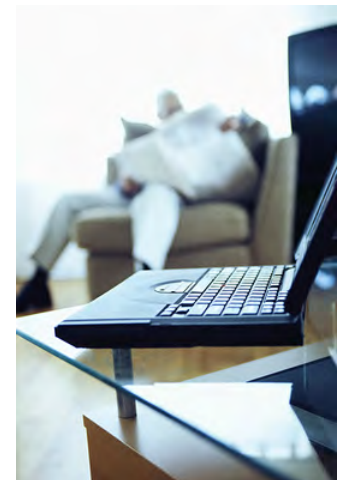
1. Ministry is about relationships. As we nurture healthy relationships in the church, we build up the church and show Christ to the world.
2. The first Mission of the church is the faithful proclamation of the gospel; the second is the nurture and shelter of the people of God; the third is our embodiment of the gospel in concrete service to the world.
3. Polity matters. It is the lived expressions of the theology. To borrow a phrase from a former General Assembly moderator Marj Carpenter, I am "sinfully proud" to be Presbyterian because of our polity.
4. Healthy processes make for healthy organizations. Trust is built and maintained through transparent and accountable leadership.
5. Despite our anxiety over change in the church and society, Jesus Christ is still Lord and Head of the Church. God is doing a new thing in our midst. Executive leadership involves helping to clarify our vision of what that new thing might be, and to assist congregations and leaders to pursue it in their particular contexts.

As your executive presbyter, I hope to be faithful to these convictions, and to honor the trust you have place in me. I am eager to get to know each of you and your congregations better and I welcome invitations to preach, teach, share a minute for mission, or just worship with you. I can be reached at the presbytery office 989- 799-7481 X1 or at dsaperstein@presbylh.org. Let the journey begin!

Dan Saperstein
Executive Presbyter

Technology Team

The Technology Team is made up of Walt Brown, Jim Lyles, Nick Pettit and Brian Parker.



Care Team Update



Prayer /Joy process

In order to keep up on prayers and joys, a new process was developed with the assistance of Roberta Single. A basket will be placed on the table in the back of the sanctuary with a slip of paper for the information you provide. Take one fill it out and place it in the offertory plate. These will be collected by the counters and turned in to the office manager, who will enter into the bulletin for the next week. These prayers/joys will stay in the system for one month and then drop off. If you notice it has dropped off and you wish continued prayers please fill out another request form as previously done. These will be scrolled at the beginning of the service as it is now. More information is provided so there is clarification of the prayer/joy with a month rotation.

Questions: see Karen Haneline Sample:

PRAYER/JOY

WHO _____

CONCERN _____

RELATION _____

Prayers of Concern

- For those serving, or who have served, in military service.
- Strength, renewal, and healing for: Lois Caryl (Beth Dryer), Gwen, Jim Pelton, Linda Voorheis, Family of Norma Ward - both mother & daughter battling cancer (friend of Loretta's).
- For peace and comfort for the family and friends of Pamela Boomer. (Kendra Bradshaw friend & mentor), comfort and God's peace for the family and friends of Adam Connell, and for the family and friends of Jim Hope.

- For Karen Haneline - that the Lord will keep her one step ahead of her students in her job.

Prayers of Concern at Presbytery of Lake Huron

- The Rev. Tom Brackbill (Alma First) and wife Pam as they deal with all that encompasses Pam's diagnosis of Younger Onset Alzheimer's Disease. Pam is under the care of Masonic Pathways.
- Those affected by flooding in the southeast. (See the PDA article below on how you can help.)
- The Rev. Cathy Chang and family as they continue training as Mission Co-Workers in the Philippines.
- Marquetta Davis, former LHP staff member whose sister TeVeldia passed.
- Ben Offrink, son of the Rev. Jim Offrick who begins a new chapter in his treatment for cancer. While it is a positive chapter it is still challenging for Ben and the entire family. The Offrinks are very grateful for the support and love shown to them.
- Michael and Rachel Ludwig, our Mission Co-Workers who are serving in Niger.

Healthy Church Check In!

Nurse Karen will be in on Sunday, November 15th after worship. Nurse Karen will be available to check your

- blood pressure
- oxygen rate
- heart rate
- blood glucose levels

Get your vitals checked and be in charge of your wellness!

Note: These screenings are not intended to be a substitute for your doctor's care. Results are strictly for your information, and is not medical advice.

Care Team

Karen Haneline, Loretta Weiss, Beth Dryer, Linda Burns, Jennifer Chanter, Jan Bradshaw.

Fellowship Team Update



- Fellowship Team Meeting November 8th immediately following worship in the back of the Fellowship Hall.

Fellowship Team

Margaret Perry, Donna Miller, Cathie Killewald, Beth Dryer, Roberta Single, Mary Renico, Fran Olsen, Elizabeth Kici, Coleen Spring, Judy Studer and Jan Bradshaw.

Property Team Update



I would like to say thank you to those who helped on the All Member Work Day. Especially my team and my teams new members. They are very talented, ambitious, and committed in addition to being a HUGE help. A lot was accomplished and we will be scheduling a cleaning day, in January, to do a thorough cleaning of the Sanctuary and possibly the Fellowship Hall."

Have a GREAT day!
Lori Goldsmith



Effective September 1st we are a smoke-free property. No smoking on the Grounds or in the Building at HPC.

Building Safety

A reminder to all to check the building for unlocked doors, water, or anything that could be pertinent to the building. It would be appreciated. We could easily prevent disasters.

Thank you,

Property Team

Lori Goldsmith, Randy Cook, Broady Cook, Gerry Jackson, Tim Burns and Tom Schettling

Worship Team Update

Weekly Attendance

Don't forget to fill out the blue fellowship book for our record keeping of your weekly attendance. Not only is the entry used for important data the church needs to collect for accounting purposes but it is used to learn visitors names, address corrections, etc. Thank you the Worship Team.

And...

Worship Team is in need of volunteers for the next several months. Open positions include substitutes for Worship Leader, ushers, greeters, and communion servers (must be as an Elder of the church). Also, we are in need of a person to fill the vacant Worship Team Leader position that become vacant in January and team members are need to make the team a viable and active group. If this sounds like something that interests you see Dessalee Cook for details.

Worship Team
Dessalee Cook
Vicki Lyles
Gordie Bradshaw



Outreach Team Update



UPDATES!

Advent adopt-a-family 2015

For a number of years the congregation of the Holly Presbyterian Church has celebrated Advent by adopting two local families and providing them with Christmas gifts. Again this year we are going to use a drawing from those participating in our Baby Pantry Ministry to select the two families. The Baby Pantry families will have from October 9th to November 13th to register for the drawing. We will then pick two families from the drawing. A board with the information for each family and their family members and gift tags will be placed in the Narthex on Sunday, November 22nd. Each tag will only include the person's first name (plus the age if a child) and type of gift, including size if it is clothing. Members of the congregation will choose a gift tag, purchase the gift, wrap it and bring it to the church. All presents need to be back by Sunday, December 20th. Members of the Outreach Committee will deliver the gifts to the homes of the two families Christmas Eve after our service that evening at the church.

Special note: The family names of the winners and participants will be kept strictly confidential. Only Rev. Sharlyn Gates and the Outreach Chairman will know who the participants are.

In The Beginning News!

We are looking for **new** volunteers for the Baby Pantry Team. Giving your time or resources to this wonderful outreach ministry will bless you in so many ways! Contact Laura Parker if you are interested in supporting this ministry.

UPCOMING DATES:

Friday, Nov 13th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, Saturday, Nov 21st, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Friday, Nov 27th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm.

Items we need include: We are low on many clothing sizes:

- Girls pants (12-18 mo, 24 mo, 2T)
- Girls shirts (3T, 4T)
- Boys PJ's (18-24 mo, 2T, 3T, 4T)

We are in need of Diapers size 4 and 1 as well as wipes. Kleenex, hand soap, wipes, & diaper rash cream are an ongoing need.

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

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 families expecting new arrivals this year. May they experience healthy pregnancies and safe deliveries.
- Pray for those parents who are not getting enough hours on their work schedules.
- Pray for those parents who are seeking work.
- Prayers for baby, James Grant Saucier, born with a cleft palette. May God bless him and be with him, and with his parents as they learn what is ahead, and learn to manage life with a newborn.

Give & Take Library: We invite the entire HPC family to support this element by donating children's books (used or new).

Supporting our Missionaries



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

[Keefer October Newsletter Link](#)



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

[Iobst September Newsletter](#) Link

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- OLSHA Action Agency needs help in these areas: Handymen, Housekeepers, Survey Takers, Office Volunteers, Yard Clean ups, Snow Removal and Lawn Mowing, Minor Home Repairs, Home Safety Devices, Heavy Housekeeping and Yard Services. If you can help, please contact Marie Verheyen at 248-209-2671 or MARIEV@olhsa.org with questions and to sign up. Details can be viewed on the office bulletin board.
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The Outreach Team

Laura Parker, Jennifer Chanter, Donna DeNise, Kenzie Nash

Personnel Team News

We are continuing to look for a nursery care provider.

Our church has many teams that not only accomplish awesome tasks, but

have great fellowship and laughter. Please consider joining one of our teams.

Charlee Litten, Jennifer Chanter, Judy Studer,
Dale Huffman, Margaret Perry



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- Easter Baskets
Pontiac, Mi

HPC Christmas - Adopt a Family

In the Beginning Baby Pantry

Forgotten Harvest Food Pantry
Holly, Mi

Friend with Needs Outreach

School Supplies-Holly Area Youth Assistance
School Supplies for Haiti

Our 2015 Session

Class of 2015

Charlee Litten

Personnel Team

(810) 694-0095

Dessalee Cook	Worship Team	(248) 634-5680
Jim Lyles	Clerk	(248) 634-4610
Walt Brown	Technology Team	(810) 629-1618

Class of 2016

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

Class of 2017

Laura Parker	Outreach Team	(248) 245-5348
Margaret Perry	Fellowship Team	(810) 735-7692
Karen Haneline	Care Team	(248) 894-3489

Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Sharlyn DeHaven Gates
(248)369-8893(h), (620) 423-2671(c)

Associate Pastor: Shaun Hardimon
(810)635.0586(h) (586)292.8772(c)