



HOLMES HERALD

HOLMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH , PO BOX 117, HOLMES, PA 19043

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Organist; Choir Director:
Mark Kalbach

Youth Director:
Rebecca Kalbach

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Please join us on
Sunday mornings for...

February 2026

Adult Forum : 9:15 AM
Children's Sunday School: 10:30 AM
Traditional worship service: 10:30 AM



Following worship on February 1, 2026, all members are invited to attend the annual meetings of the congregation and the corporation. These are the informative meetings at which the officers and organizations report the stewardship of the leadership in 2025. The Nominating Committee and Auditor for 2026 are elected. We value your presence at this important meeting. YOU ARE HOLMES CHURCH!!!!

Presbyterian Mission Support Fund



During the month of February, members of Holmes Church are asked to make your Presbyterian Mission Support offering. Each member should use the blue envelope provided in your General Fund envelope box. The Philadelphia Presbytery, The Synod of the Trinity and the General Assembly ask all churches to submit \$37 per member in order to support the administration of our Presbyterian mission program. Please place the blue envelopes in the offering plate.



What does it mean to be whiter than snow?

Whiter than snow figuratively expresses the condition of one who has received God's forgiveness cleansing from sin, and redemption.

King David wrote Psalm 51 during his blackest hour of self-awareness after committing adultery with Bathsheba and murdering her husband, Uriah. In this fourth "penitential psalm," we find David in sincere repentance and confession of sin Psalm 51: 3-5. Believing God abounds in mercy, David makes this earnest plea: "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow" Psalm 51:7.

Hyssop was a small shrub used in the ceremonial cleansing of lepers under the Old Testament law. It was dipped in the sacrificial blood of an animal and sprinkled seven times on the person needing purification Leviticus 14: 6-7 David referred to hyssop symbolically in Psalm 51 to communicate his longing to be purified of sin. God's forgiveness would make him "whiter than snow," spiritually speaking. David acknowledged that he had been deeply stained by sin, comparing himself to a filthy garment needing to be washed thoroughly. Only the most potent remedy could cleanse him. David even tracked his iniquity back to its source, the corruption of original sin: "For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me" Psalm 51:5.

David's prayer then turned to restoration and renewal. It was as though David could hear the forthcoming cry of God's heart through the prophet Isaiah: "Wash yourselves and be clean! Get your sins out of my sight. Give up your evil ways" Isaiah 1:16. So David pleaded with the Lord, "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow," foreshadowing Isaiah's words, "Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, I will make them as white as wool" Isaiah 1: 16-18.

David's prayer to be washed and made whiter than snow prefigured "the greater, more perfect" appropriation of God's grace, forgiveness, and salvation made available through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ: "So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world. With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever. Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer could cleanse people's bodies from ceremonial impurity. Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins" Hebrews 9:11-14.

We may consider our transgressions to be worse than David's, but there are no sins that the blood of Jesus cannot cleanse. Saul of Tarsus, the persecutor of Christians who became the great apostle Paul, was told by Ananias at his conversion, "Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins by calling on His name" Acts 22:16. The apostle John affirmed, "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. . . .

(continued on Page 3)



Daylight Saving Time Begins

Looking ahead to brighter days! Spring Daylight Saving Time begins on March 8th. The spring time change means that we lose an hour of sleep because we turn our clocks forward an hour at bedtime on Saturday night. In order to be in worship on time on March 8th, make sure your clocks are changed when you retire on Saturday, March 7th.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" 1 John 1: 7-9.

Like every Christian, we have flaws and must repent and draw near to the Lord in our blackest moments of failure, asking Christ "who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood" Revelation 1: 5 to forgive us and wash our guilt-stained souls whiter than snow Hebrews 10: 19-23.

The book of Revelation describes a group of redeemed people as those who "have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" Revelation 7:14.. It is through Christ's sacrifice on the cross—the shedding of His blood—that we are redeemed and rescued from the kingdom of darkness and transferred to the kingdom of God Colossians 1: 13, 20;; Ephesians 1:7. David, Paul, and John will undoubtedly be among the "thousands upon thousands" worshipping around the throne dressed in robes washed whiter than snow. Together with them, we will join in the thundering chorus, "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise! . . . To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praised and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" Revelation 5: 11-13.

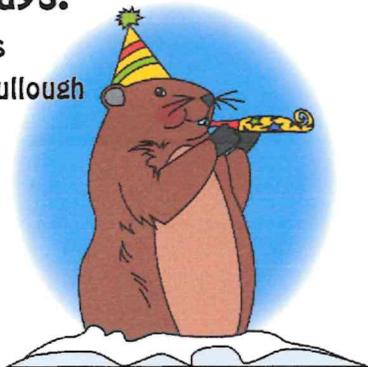
Holmes Presbyterian Church
119th Anniversary
Sunday and Celebration
(1907-2026)



On Sunday, February 22nd, 2026, our church will be celebrating our 119th Anniversary with a light tea and luncheon afterward. In worship, we will be honoring those Elders who have been called home by the Lord, with the placing of their names on the Elder plaques which are located in the back of the sanctuary: Ed Roth, Jim Morrison, Isobel Beaston, Jean Urian, and Bruce Moffatt. We also hope to be welcoming and celebrating new members on this special day also.

February Birthdays:

- 9 Eileen Stevens
- 15 Brandon McCullough
- 24 Monica Ferry



YOUR CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2026

It is with grateful hearts that Holmes Church expresses their deepest appreciation to the following people for their commitment and willingness to lead us in the new year. We pray that God will bless their efforts giving them courage in their leadership, compassion in their service and wisdom in their decisions.

The following people are your elected leaders for 2026. You are encouraged to contact them if you have a question, suggestion, or a concern about the church, or a particular need.

SESSION

Becky Kalbach, Mark Kalbach, Lynn Krauthaim, Angelo LoCastro, Ed Taylor, Lisa Taylor, Elaine VanGeyten, Suzi Waldie, Bob White, Dyan White, Gene Zimmerman.

DEACONS

Debbie Lucas, Charlotte Merker, Leeann McCullough, Sue Mulhern, Helen Pilgrene, Eileen Stevens, Amanda Taylor, Peg Walter and Barbara Zimmerman.

MINISTRY TEAMS

Here are the Session members and their responsibilities:

Ed Taylor: Finance Chair, Christian Ed.

Lisa Taylor: Property Chair, Christian Ed.

Angelo LoCastro: Treasurer, Finance, Facilities Manager, Property

Bob White: Clerk of Session, Christian Ed, Property

Dyan White: Christian Ed Chair, Worship, Outreach

Lynn Krauthaim: Property, Christian Ed, Outreach

Suzi Waldie: Outreach Chair, Christian Ed., Worship

Gene Zimmerman: Finance, Property

Elaine VanGeyten: Christian Ed., Outreach, Worship

Mark Kalbach: Worship, Christian Ed., Outreach

Becky Kalbach: Worship Chair, Christian Ed., Outreach

BOARD OF DEACONS

Responsible for ministry to sick, less fortunate and benevolence (mission) giving.

President	Leeann McCullough	Vice President	Helen Pilgrene
Secretary	Eileen Stevens	Treasurer	Amanda Taylor
Flowers	Debbie Oliver	Cards	Sue Mulhern
Special Missions	Peggy Walter		
General Missions	Charlotte Merker		
Communion	Barbara Zimmerman		
Teas	Debbie Lucas		
Blessing Box/Food Boxes	Helen Pilgrene		

Questions/requests about the clothing closet can be directed to Helen Pilgrene.



Lenten Communion



The season of Lent offers a profound opportunity for renewal. As we prepare for Easter, the Church invites its members and friends to enter into this season of repentance and to renew their commitment to Jesus Christ through Communion. Our Lenten Communion will take place on Sunday, Feb 22nd. Communion will be by intinction.

Compassion Sunday



On Sunday, February 15th, we will be hosting our annual Compassion Day worship service.

Information regarding our current Compassion children will be shared, and we will watch a video during worship how the Compassion Program positively and spiritually impacts people around the world. Child Compassion information packets will be available in the narthex, if the Holy Spirit moves you, to sponsor a child. Please don't miss this important day of worship.

Directory Update

Email address for Barbara Zimmerman
bzimm732@gmail.com

Faith in Action



A Christian is someone who makes it easier for others to believe in God — not through perfection, but through kindness, grace and love in everyday life. When people see Christ's compassion in us, they're drawn closer to Him.

Valentine's Wish by Kay Hoffman

My Valentine's wish
is nothing new....
Each day I wish
the best for you.

My Valentine's a
Daily Prayer
That God will keep you
In His Care

And grant your every
Dream come true....
This is my valentine wish
For YOU!!



Stop, Look and Listen

Why should we observe Lent?

We observe Lent because it causes us to STOP. Lent says, "Stop and rest awhile." Lent says, "Stop doing wrong."

We observe Lent because it tells us to LOOK. Look inward for an honest self-examination. Look upward to see the cross of Christ with healing and love. Look forward to the hope of the Resurrection.

We observe Lent because it tells us to LISTEN. Listen to the words of Christ. Listen to the voice of God. Listen to the winds of the Spirit of God.

Stop, look and listen. These three words are important for our safety in travel, but they may also be helpful for our journey through the days of Lent.

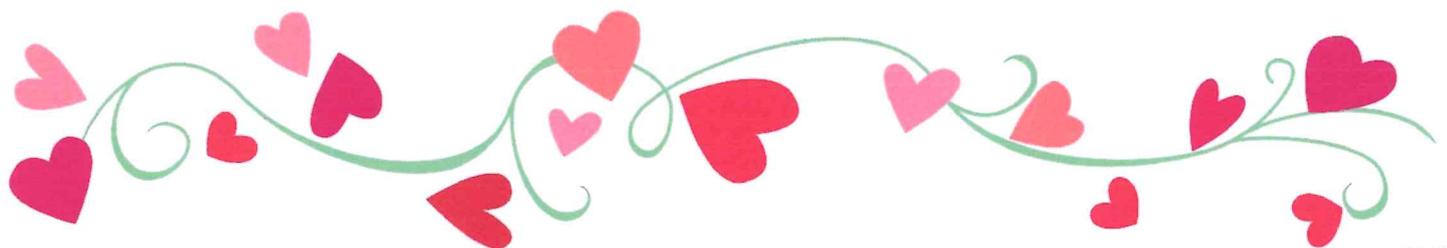
YOUTH NEWS

January's weather really hasn't cooperated with church and/or with youth group for that matter. It seems that we keep having this snowy weather on Sundays. As I write this, there is another potential snowstorm on the horizon...when....Sunday! We hope that the weather will cooperate when we can all be together safely again.

We look forward to February, when we have the Soup Luncheon/Bake Sale scheduled for February 28th. More information will be coming out shortly for that...what soups will be available, what time, etc. in the church bulletins and through email.

In Christ,

Mark and Becky



Tentative Schedule of events at HPC

The following is a list of tentative event dates approved by Session. These dates are subject to change due to weather and/or scheduling conflicts.

January 25th: Fellowship Hour

Feb 1st-Annual Meeting @11:30 in church sanctuary

February 15th: Compassion Sunday

Feb 22nd -119th Church Anniversary & Celebration/ Welcoming of New Members/Lenten Communion

Feb 28th: Soup Luncheon

March 8th: Daylight Savings-Spring Ahead

March 15th-Fill Easter Eggs @ 4:30 with Pizza Dinner

March 20th: First Day of Spring

March 28th: Easter Egg Hunt @ 11:00 am

March 29th-Palm Sunday

April 2nd, Maundy Thursday Service

Community Casserole Dinner @5:30, Service @7:00

April 3rd: Good Friday Service @ 1 pm

April 5th -Easter Sunday @ 10:30 am with flowering of the Resurrection Cross after worship

Mother's Day Mission Collection: begins April 19 thru May 3

May 2nd -Compassion Sale (May 10th Rain Date) with free clothing giveaway

May 9th-Mother's Day Luncheon/Youth Sunday (With all the Children/Youth in the Church)

May 24th-Pentecost/Memorial Day/Recognition of Veterans/Flag Ceremony

June 7th-10:00 am Summer Worship Starts

June 21st-Father's Day Tea

June 22nd to June 26th-VBS?

July 5th- Recognition of July 4th

August 2nd-Summer Communion

August-Kids Stuff?

Tentative Schedule of events at HPC (cont'd)

September 6th-Church resumes Fall schedule @10:30 am

September 13th- Grandparents Day/Fellowship Hour

September 20th-Ygroup Resumes

September 22nd-Chancel Choir Resumes

September 20th or 27th: Fall Fest ? with free clothing giveaway

October 5th-World Day of Communion

October 11th-Fellowship Hour

October 18th-Family Pumpkin Carving Night

October 23rd-Trunk or Treat/Pumpkin Carving Contest Community Night (Raindate October 24th)

November 1st- Daylight Savings-Fall Back /All Saints Day

November 22nd-Youth Sunday (With all the Children/Youth in the Church) & Friendsgiving

Thanksgiving Food Drive: begins October 25 thru November 15

November 25th-Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 28th: Hanging of the Greens

November 29th-First Sunday of Advent/Communion

Christmas Adopt a Family: begins November 29 thru December 13

December 6th: Christmas Cabaret

December 13th- Mission Worship Sunday/Happy Birthday Jesus Celebration

Dec 20th-Music Worship/Christmas Tea

Dec. 21st-First Day of Winter

December 24th-Christmas Eve with 7:00 Family Worship/Communion Service

December 27th: Informal 10:00am Worship/Fellowship Hour

January 3rd, 2027: New Year Communion

FEBRUARY



Holmes Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:15 AM Adult Forum 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Annual Meeting 6:00 PM Youth Group 	2 8:00 AM OTHG 12:00 PM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM NA Meeting Groundhog Day	3 9:30 AM Knitting/Sewing 6:30 PM Daisy Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	4 4:00 PM Crew 143	5 7:00 PM Men's Support Group	6 8:00 PM AA Meeting	7
8 9:15 AM Adult Forum 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM Youth Group	9 8:00 AM OTHG 12:00 PM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM NA Meeting 7:00 PM Session/Deacons	10 9:30 AM Knitting/Sewing 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	11 4:00 PM Crew 143	12 7:00 PM Men's Support Group Lincoln's Birthday	13 8:00 PM AA Meeting	14 Valentine's Day 
15 9:15 AM Adult Forum 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM Youth Group 	16 8:00 AM OTHG 12:00 PM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM NA Meeting President's Day	17 9:30 AM Knitting/Sewing 6:30 PM Daisy Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	18 4:00 PM Crew 143	19 7:00 PM Men's Support Group	20 8:00 PM AA Meeting	21
22 9:15 AM Adult Forum 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Anniversary Luncheon/Tea 	23 8:00 AM OTHG 12:00 PM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM NA Meeting	24 9:30 AM Knitting/Sewing 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	25 4:00 PM Crew 143	26 7:00 PM Men's Support Group	27 8:00 PM AA Meeting	28 Soup Luncheon

Jan 2026

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Mar 2026

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				