



# HOLMES HERALD

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Please join us on  
Sunday mornings for...

  
**November**

**Adult Forum: 9:15 AM**

**Children's Sunday School: 10:30 AM**

**Traditional worship service: 10:30 AM**

**2025**

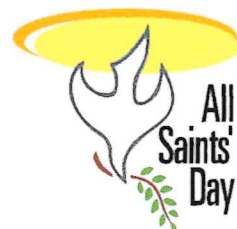
## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS!!



Remember to set your clocks **BACK ONE HOUR**, before retiring on Saturday evening, November 1st so that you are on time for worship November 2nd.

On Sunday, November 2nd, we will observe All Saints Day in our worship hour. At the close of the service there will be a TIME OF REMEMBRANCE when we honor the memory of those of our congregation who have died since last All Saints Day.

**If you would like to honor the memory of a loved one who died during this year there will be an opportunity for you to light a candle as well.**



On Wednesday evening, November 26th, at 7:30 pm we will hold a special service of praise and Thanksgiving. During this service favorite Thanksgiving hymns will be played and Old and New Testament scriptures will be read.



## A Message from Elder Dyan White:

With the month of November comes a rush of events. Many plans of celebrations involving family and friends, routine appointments, daily schedules... if you blink, you may miss. How can we take a breath and focus on each day, not as a pit stop to a destination? Time management versus living in the moment.

You may struggle, as I do, to keep a steady productive pace. Allowing time for rest and the unexpected. Well, the truth may be there is no one way to attain such a path. Our priorities are as diverse as we are, often dictated by events we did not choose. Hopefully, we have some flexibility in the ordering of our days.

The hymn, "Count Your Blessings", often runs through my head, especially the chorus. We are encouraged to name each one and reminded what God has done in our lives.

Each day is truly a gift if we stop and consider how the Lord blesses us, in both happy and challenging days, in exciting and blah days, in all occasions and seasons.

In this season of Thanksgiving, we can strive to be thankful each day, naming and counting our blessings, giving praise to God for each and every perfect gift.

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## Giving Thanks for All Things



It's easy to list the blessings in life: good health, family, a satisfying career, a comfortable home. We might even be thankful for things others take for granted such as freedom and clean drinking water, reliable transportation and food enough to eat. Then there are the little things, such as gardens, sunrises, pets and coffee.

But what about life's storms or unanswered prayers? Should we be thankful for these? Loss and hardship remind us of our dependence on God. He uses trials to draw us closer to him, to show us that He is our rock and refuge. In misfortune and grief, we discover God's comfort and strength. Should we not, then, be thankful for the storms, too?

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## Gratitude Shift

When we look at what we want, and then compare that with what we have, we shall be unhappy.

When we think about what we really deserve, and then compare that with what we actually have, we shall thank God.





## ADVENT COMMUNION

We celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season on November 30th with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Worship begins at 10:30 am. The "Good Samaritan" offering taken during this service is distributed equally to each of our missionaries as a Christmas gift from our Church family.



Hanging of the Greens will take place on Saturday, November 29th, at 5 pm. Please join us for pizza and for this festive event where we decorate Holmes Church in the Old Williamsburg style. We need many hands to decorate Christmas trees, the windows, and the church sanctuary. Please look for the tear-off response slip that will be placed in the bulletin in the middle of November.

The Deacons are once again looking to make Christmas brighter for people at Christmas time. This year their focus is on children. The options are being looked at and a final decision will be made at the upcoming Deacons meeting. Please watch for updates. This Christmas outreach will start on November 16th and end on Dec 14th.



**Although we are thankful everyday for God's blessings, November is traditionally a month for "thanksgiving". If you are reading this newsletter we say "Thank You" for being such a blessing to this church and wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving.**

## November Birthdays:

- 2 Mrs. Helen Pilgrene
- 3 Mrs. Christine Morrison
- 7 Mr. Larry Gloner
- 14 Mrs. Julie Reeder
- 16 Lindsey Birkbeck
- 26 Ms. Amanda Taylor

## November Anniversaries:

- 2 Joe & Sarah O'Donnell
- 11 Jim & Joanna Birkbeck



## FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS



Each year poinsettia plants add brilliant color to the holiday decorations in our Sanctuary. If you would like to honor or memorialize a loved one, please fill in the tear-off slip, along with your check for \$7.50 for each plant and mail it to the church office. Make all checks payable to "Holmes Presbyterian Church". To ensure that funds are available to pay the greenhouse bill on time and to avoid the time consuming process of tracking people down for payment we request that payment be submitted at time of ordering. **Last day for orders is December 14th.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_ Pink

\_\_\_\_ Marble

\_\_\_\_ I will take my poinsettia home with me

\_\_\_\_ Please donate my poinsettia



## Clothing/Food giveaway recap

On October 4th we held a clothing/food giveaway for our community. Our prayers for God to send us the people that really needed help not just those that wanted "free food and clothing" were answered. We didn't have massive amounts of people but the ones who came to us had life changing events and needed assistance. Two memorable people that stood out that day had recently had health issues and lost massive amounts of weight consequently their clothing no longer fit them. Both women got casual clothing but one needed a winter coat and the other wanted dress clothes

to wear to church. We were able to meet their needs and desires because others passed along their clothing to share. There are many other stories to tell but not enough space. Just know that people were exceptionally grateful for the food and clothing.

Thank you to everyone who cleaned out their closets to help clothe others. We are especially grateful for the hard working servants God gave us that day: Patty Jo Urian, Peggy Walter and Kay Caruso. These multitaskers setup/closed up and helped the community with clothing and food bags/boxes. The event not only blessed the people who came but also blessed us and we are grateful!



## Festival of Giving

Reminder: Our second group craft meet up, in preparation for the Festival of Giving, will be Saturday, November 1st beginning at 10:00AM. We have a few things in the works, but there are more things to work on ..... so feel free to jump in.

As we get ready for the festival, please note the following:

If you want to help out ( PLEASE,PLEASE, PLEASE) we will welcome you gladly. Here are a few ideas of how:

- a) Baked goods are needed for the Bake Table: see Peg Walter to sign up
- b) Additional food items are welcome too.... Examples: I may offer a few sweet potato casseroles, do you have a recipe for a favorite soup? Or, something popular like fudge or cream puffs?
- c) We welcome crafters who want to work on their own... so let your creativity soar!
- d) Vi and Dave Jolly are heading up the kitchen, but we need the food, so let them or Becky know if you can donate hot dogs, rolls, chips ( small bags), pretzels, hot chocolate mix, water, etc.
- e) Of course we need help "manning "the tables, helping at the kids crafts table and with set up and take down- the good news, we are inside and in one location!
- f) The Silent Auction is looking for new or excellent condition things - Can you put a basket together, or do you have something to donate- please let us know. Unused gift cards are welcome too!!!
- g) If you are super busy but still want to support this event, a financial gift will help us cover al the things I have failed to mention.....

This is a huge endeavor, and takes multiple hands. I, personally, thank you for any and every thing you can do.

Suzi





## Friendsgiving

### Friendsgiving

A Friendsgiving meal will take place immediately following worship on Sunday, November 23rd,

in Morrison Hall. Friendsgiving is a wonderful way to fellowship with our church friends and members, reflecting on God's blessings over the past year. Please bring a dish to share with 5/6 people. Plates, napkins, cups, drinks, and silverware will be provided. We hope you can join us, all are welcome.

On November 11th, our nation observes Veterans Day. Holmes Church gratefully acknowledges the veterans in our church, community and around the globe. We live in a country with freedoms that other countries dream about and we proudly thank every Veteran for serving and protecting our country.



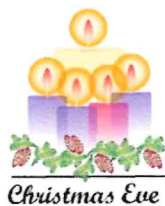
## Food Collection

### Food Drive

The Deacons food drive to benefit our Blessing box and food boxes will end on November 16th. We thank all the people who have already contributed food items to support our local community members. If you would like to support members of our community through this outreach there is still time. Please place all nonperishable food items in the music room before November 16th.

It has been a long standing tradition at Holmes Church to celebrate the eve of our Savior's birth. This year, we will hold a Family Candlelight service at 7:00pm.

Please mark your calendars to reflect this.



### Holiday Baskets

The adult forum will once again be sponsoring holiday baskets. The event, "Mission Sunday" is scheduled for Sunday, Dec 14th. In place of our traditional service, we will gather in Morrison Hall, to prepare the baskets and celebrate Jesus' birthday. A sign-up sheet and receptacle for donations will be placed in the narthex in the near future. We hope you will join in as we bless members of our church family and the community.

### Christmas Music Program

On Sunday, December 21st, Holmes Church will hold a Christmas Music Program dedicated to the music of the Christmas season starting at 10:30 am.. Please join us as soloists, the Chancel Choir, and the Bell Choir lead us in the glorious music of the season. A Christmas Tea will follow directly in the Social Hall. Please join us and invite a friend.



We are once again blessed to have a scout troop under our roof here at Holmes Church. Daisy Girl Scout troop 5841, led by Margaret Tommaro, meets the first and third Tuesday of each month in Morrison Hall. The troop is composed of 5 kindergarten and first grade girls from the area. The girls are starting off by earning Daisy "petals" as they learn Girl Scout values such as honesty, helpfulness, and caring for others. Throughout the year the troop will learn outdoor skills, work on a community service project, take field trips, and of course sell cookies!

If you see the scout troop/leaders please give them a warm welcome!

# YOUTH NEWS

The Holmes Youth Group was very busy the last several weeks. First, we had family pumpkin carving. What a fun night we had with so many friends and members of the church! The youth carved creative pumpkins with their families while we devoured delicious desserts. Then, we had Trunk or Treat. We sure were busy handing out candy. We ran out of candy three times, and we had huge bags of candy too!

November brings us to a month where our meeting discussions are about God's blessings and being thankful/grateful. We look towards our Friendsgiving event on Sunday, November 23rd directly after church in the social hall.

Mark and I truly thank you for supporting our youth group. Holmes Church and it's members are certainly a blessing.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Love,

Mark and Becky

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING



## Trunk or Treat/Pumpkin Carving:

Thank you for all the families that showed up for family pumpkin carving. We sure had a fun time and if you looked at our Facebook page, you all saw a sampling of everyone's hard work. The pumpkins looked phenomenal!

WOW WOW WOW is all I can say about our Trunk or Treat event! We were so busy this year. So many families came onto our church lawn and campus. We had a lot of creative Trunks this year. There were so many smiles on the faces of the families and children that came to our event. Thank you for all the friends and members that came out to hand out treats to our neighborhood community families. We had some new friends join us from church and the neighborhood to add to the fun.

Thank you again to all who helped to make this such a successful and fun event for children and families of the community.



# NOVEMBER

Holmes Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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