

# HOLMES HERALD

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*Please join us on Sunday mornings for...*

**November 2026**

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

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS!!



*Remember to set your clocks BACK ONE HOUR, before retiring on Saturday evening, October 31st so that you are on time for worship November 1st.*

On Sunday, November 1st, 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. This year we will light a candle for Bruce Moffatt and Christine Morrison.




**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 25th, 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.

## Let Gratitude Shine in Your Life

A devotion on gratitude by Norman Vincent Peale

Give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. —Psalm 107:1

If you want to feel better physically, if you want a better outlook on life, remember that verse.

Every morning when you get up, instead of fretting and complaining, instead of turning to the media to see how bad everything is, just go and look out of the window. Take a deep breath and say, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." It makes you feel better just to think of doing that, doesn't it? How much better it will make you feel if you follow that habit of gratitude every day!

The art of thanksgiving is one of the most important skills a human being can develop. Sadly, I believe most of us are somewhat lacking in this area. But very closely related to thanksgiving is the art of appreciation. And if we develop the ability to appreciate, we also develop our capacity to be thankful.

Begin with acknowledging the small wonders of life, those little things like hot coffee or the smell of a rose, fresh sheets or bread warm from the oven. It is God's will that we "give thanks in everything" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). All of us have simple, beautiful things that Almighty God has given us, which we can appreciate. Open your eyes and see that God "does wonderful things without number" (Job 5:9). Gratitude every day!

There's another reason to be thankful for our blessings: Gratitude activates the flow of even more blessings in our life. And by the same token, ingratitude, fear, or doubt has the opposite effect. If you hold a thought—positive or negative—you create a soil that is hospitable to the germination of the fact for which the thought is the symbol. And the seed you plant, whether good or bad, "produces a crop yielding a hundred…times what was sown" (Matthew 13:23).

So don't entertain negative thoughts. Fight them, with God's help. Keep them out of your mind.

One important way to do that is not to articulate, not to express such thoughts in words. Cut off the articulation and you reduce half their strength. It will then be easier to cut them off mentally. You have to practice this. And in this practicing, visualization is helpful. Each day, pray with the Psalmist, "May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer" (Psalm 19:14).

We used to sing an old hymn with this refrain:

Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God hath done!

How long has it been since you have counted up your blessings? When you invite a person to recount his troubles, you are likely to find he can do so all too readily. But if you can get somebody to enumerate his blessings to you, and you look at his face as he does it, you see somebody who really has light in his heart. Let the light of gratitude shine in your life!




## ADVENT COMMUNION

We celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season on November 29th 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.

**November Birthdays:**

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Mrs. Helen Pilgrene |
| 7 | Mr. Larry Gloner |
| 14 | Mrs. Julie Reeder |
| 26 | Ms. Amanda Taylor |

**November Anniversaries:**

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






Hanging of the Greens will take place on Saturday, November 28th, 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.




## 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 $8.00 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 8th.**

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 Drive

The Deacons food drive to benefit Loaves & Fishes, our local food bank will end on November 15th. We thank all the people who have already contributed food items to support the dedication and mission of this food bank in our community. If you would like to help stock their shelves food items are still being collected. Please place all nonperishable food items in the music room on/before November 15th.

Name: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

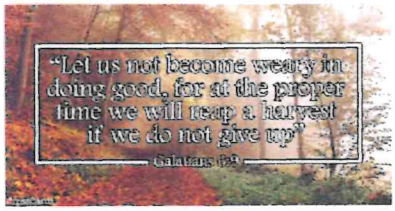
In Honor of: _____

_____Red _____White _____ Pink

_____ Marble

____ I will take my poinsettia home with me

____ Please donate my poinsettia




## A Prayer for When We Are Tired

Galatians 6:9 Scripture Card

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9).

Good and gracious God,

You know what each of us is going through. You know our hardships, you know what we're waiting for, you know what we are asking, and you know the good we do in our best efforts to be obedient and righteous. Help us not to become weary doing good, help us not to give up, so that we will reap the promised harvest for pursuing righteousness. We are so grateful that by your might all things are possible. Help us lead lives that are pure and holy, pleasing in your sight. We thank you for strength and wisdom each day to keep moving forward in hope and trust. This time of year teaches us that we will reap the harvest of our good efforts because you fulfill all your promises. Thank you, Lord, for being just and faithful. Amen.




## A Prayer of Thanks for God's Faithfulness

Isaiah 40:8 Scripture Card

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever" (Isaiah 40:8).

Faithful God,

We come to you with a thirst for your presence and real connection with you. This time of year the flowers do fade, the leaves do wither and die, and even the bright sun will shine less. But oh, we praise you, for your faithfulness. That your truth, that your good and honest words and promises will stand forever. Though the seasons change, we know you do not. We lift up our voices in gratitude for your righteousness that we can always depend on. We thank you for being our rock and firm foundation, and that your word is a lamp unto our feet. Give us hope this time of year and remind us that though the season is changing, and the unknown journey lies ahead, we can trust in your unfailing truth and presence. Amen.

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## Charging Forward in Stewardship

Rhinoceroses are remarkable creatures. Strong, sturdy and surprisingly fast, a rhino is built to protect. When it senses danger, especially near its herd or its young, it does not hesitate. It moves with focus, strength and purpose.

There may be a stewardship lesson for us in that.

God has entrusted each of us with gifts, time and resources to use for his kingdom. When opportunities come to serve, give, encourage or help, faithful stewards do not stand still and wait for someone else to go first. They respond with willing hearts and steady faith.

Stewardship is not passive. It calls us to move with purpose, give with conviction and serve with the strength God provides. May we be quick to answer God's call, bold in putting our faith into action and faithful in caring for the people and work God has placed before us.

## Christmas Cabaret

If you want to attend a super fun night out to put you in the Christmas spirit, come to Christmas Cabaret 2026 at Holmes Church! Suzi Waldie leads this entertaining evening. And it...is...entertaining! If you don't want to sing, just come and enjoy the entertainment! This is a program designed for all ages. Tickets are $10.00 and dessert with a Hot Chocolate Bar will be included. Start time is 6:30 pm.

## Holiday Baskets

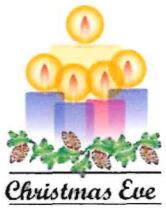
The adult forum will once again be sponsoring holiday baskets. The event, "Mission Sunday" is scheduled for Sunday, Dec 15th. In place of our traditional service, we will gather in Morrison Hall, to prepare the baskets and celebrate Jesus' birthday. A sign-up sheet and receptacle for donations will be 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.

## A MESSAGE FROM ED

Nominating Committee - the Nominating Committee will be contacting members in the next two weeks about serving as an Elder or Deacon. If you are approached, we ask that please give serious consideration to saying yes.

Stewardship Campaign - Our Stewardship Campaign will begin on October 28 and will end on Commitment Sunday November 15th. You will be receiving a letter containing your pledge slip shortly. We ask that you pray about what you intend to give back to God in 2027.

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 with a special Christmas nativity story performance at 7pm directed by Suzi Waldie.




**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 ...**






# 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/members of the church with new families joining us from the community! The youth certainly carved creative pumpkins! Then, we had Trunk or Treat. We sure were busy handing out candy.

November brings us to a month where our meeting discussions are about God's blessings and being thankful/grateful.

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

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## 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!

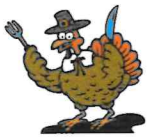
WOW WOW WOW is all I can say about our Trunk or Treat event! We were so busy again this year. So many families came onto our church lawn and campus. We had so many creative Trunks this year. There were so many smiles on the faces of the families and children that came to our event. Thank you for all 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. Fun was had by all!



# NOVEMBER

## Holmes Presbyterian Church

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1**<br>9:15 AM Adult Forum<br>10:30 AM Children's Sunday School<br>10:30 AM Worship<br>11:30 AM Luncheon<br>6:00 PM Youth Group<br>All Saints' Day | **2**<br>8:00 AM OTHG<br>12:00 PM Men's Bible Study<br>7:00 PM NA Meeting | **3**<br>9:30 AM Knitting/Sewing<br>6:30 PM Daisy Girl Scouts<br>7:00 PM Chancel Choir<br>Election Day | **4** | **5** | **6**<br>8:00 PM AA Meeting | **7** |
| **8**<br>9:15 AM Adult Forum<br>10:30 AM Children's Sunday School<br>10:30 AM Worship<br>6:00 PM Youth Group | **9**<br>8:00 AM OTHG<br>12:00 PM Men's Bible Study<br>7:00 PM NA Meeting<br>7:00 PM Session/Deacons | **10**<br>9:30 AM Knitting/Sewing<br>7:00 PM Chancel Choir | **11** | **12** | **13**<br>8:00 PM AA Meeting | **14** |
| **15**<br>9:15 AM Adult Forum<br>10:30 AM Children's Sunday School<br>10:30 AM Worship<br>6:00 PM Youth Group | **16**<br>8:00 AM OTHG<br>12:00 PM Men's Bible Study<br>7:00 PM NA Meeting | **17**<br>9:30 AM Knitting/Sewing<br>6:30 PM Daisy Girl Scouts<br>7:00 PM Chancel Choir | **18** | **19** | **20**<br>8:00 PM AA Meeting | **21** |
| **22**<br>9:15 AM Adult Forum<br>10:30 AM Children's Sunday School<br>10:30 AM Worship<br>6:00 PM Youth Group | **23**<br>8:00 AM OTHG<br>12:00 PM Men's Bible Study<br>7:00 PM NA Meeting | **24**<br>9:30 AM Knitting/Sewing<br>7:00 PM Chancel Choir | **25**<br>7:30 PM Thanksgiving Eve<br> | **26**<br>Happy Thanksgiving!<br> | **27**<br>8:00 PM AA Meeting | **28**<br>5:00 PM Hanging of the Greens<br>Hanging of the Greens |
| **29**<br>9:15 AM Adult Forum<br>10:30 AM Children's Sunday School<br>10:30 AM Worship<br>6:00 PM Youth Group<br>Communion Service | **30**<br>8:00 AM OTHG<br>12:00 PM Men's Bible Study<br>7:00 PM NA Meeting | | | | | |

**Oct 2026**

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**Dec 2026**

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