



# HOLMES HERALD

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

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## IN THIS ISSUE:

Messages from Ed	page 2
Events/Bdays	page 3
October events recap	page 4
More events	page 5
Youth News	page 6

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

**2023**

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS!!



Remember to set your clocks **BACK ONE HOUR**, before retiring on Saturday evening, November 4th so that you are on time for worship November 5th.

On Sunday, November 5th, 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.**



**THANKSGIVING SERVICE** On Wednesday evening, November 22nd, 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.



## STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN and NOMINATING COMMITTEE



The above two very important programs will be taking place in November.

Stewardship is a way of life, and we, as Christians, have been called by God to be stewards of His Creation. Being a good steward means being generous with our TIME, TALENTS AND TREASURE. It means returning the first portions of all God has given us. It is a way to thank God for blessing us with the gifts of life. It is based on our NEED to give something back to God –not the church's need for money. It is a rewarding way of life in which our personal relationship with Jesus is enriched and deepened.

We are to be a steward of finances. Jesus has given us instructions on how to handle our finances. The "Parable of the Rich Fool" in Luke 12 tells us not to hoard our resources. The "Parable of the Talents" in Matthew 25 tells us to use our resources wisely. 1 Timothy 6 tells us to be content with enough.

We should be cheerful givers. We should give honestly. We should give regularly and proportionally. The Bible's guideline is a tithe- that is, 10% of our annual income. We should give generously with an open heart. God takes care of those who share their first fruits with Him and others.

A church is only as viable as its relationship with God and we Christians are only as viable as our relationship with God. So let us open our hearts and give from our substance, not from our abundance.

As I mentioned above, our Nominating Committee will be meeting to seek out people to serve on the Boards of Elder, Deacon and Trustee. The Nominating Committee needs to identify persons who demonstrate both spiritual maturity and a willingness to continue to grow in their spiritual development. A key gift for effective church leadership is a commitment to continually growing in the walk of faith.

We are asking each of our members to search their hearts, if they are approached to serve God and Holmes Church in one of the capacities above, and listen to what God is asking of them.

Holmes Church needs good leaders so do not sell yourself short if you are asked to serve.

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Times are tough. We are all feeling the crunch of higher taxes, higher fuel bills and rising inflation. We have seen the depletion of our investments due to the downward spiraling of the stock market. But we must remember that all we have comes from God and that He is there for us in good times and in bad. He cares for us and aids us in all of life. So we must ask ourselves "How much of what God has provided am I willing to return to Him for His work through Holmes Church?"

As we embark on our stewardship drive for 2024 we would ask that you pray daily for an answer to that question, "How much of what God has provided am I willing to return to Him?"

If you made a pledge in 2023, we ask that you consider increasing that pledge for 2024. If you did not pledge in 2023, we ask that you consider taking a step forward and make a pledge for 2024.

Your faithfulness as a congregation is untouchable and you have always risen to the task when asked. But I ask you, "Why wait to be asked?" Why not rise up in the beginning?

Do not hoard up your treasures like a rich fool. Put God first on your list of priorities and give to Him first from substance, not last from your abundance. For God loves a cheerful giver and He will not abandon you.



First Sunday  
of Advent

## ADVENT COMMUNION

We celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season on December 3rd 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 be held on Saturday, December 2nd at 5 pm. We will have pizza and salad for dinner. Beverages will also be provided. We ask that everyone brings a dessert. We will need many hands to help beautify our church (inside and outside) in the Williamsburg tradition. We also have luminaries that need to be made/filled. Crafts will be provided for children. So...we need you! Please plan to join us and fellowship with us as we prepare our church for the Advent/Christmas Season.

## Adopt A Family



The Deacons are once again looking to make Christmas brighter people in need. This year, the Deacons are supporting the residents of Mother's Home in Darby. The Christmas outreach will start on November 12th and end on December 10th. More details will soon follow regarding the residents and their needs.

**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
- 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 \$7.00 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 November 26th.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_ Burgundy

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

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



# October Events Recap

From Becky Kalbach



## Family Pumpkin Carving:

We had well over 40 kids and adults join in on the fun for Family Pumpkin Carving Night! We enjoyed a pizza dinner and a very large dessert table with assorted goodies that certainly didn't disappoint! The pumpkins looked absolutely fantastic and thanks to everyone who came out! Also, many thanks to the Taylors for getting the pumpkins for this fun event!



## Trunk or Treat:

What an absolutely beautiful night for our Trunk or Treat & Pumpkin Carving Contest! Our church lawn was filled with trunks! And what great trunks we had: Debbie Oliver, Peggy Walter, the Youth Group, and Charlotte Merker all had Halloween themed trunks. Becky Kalbach did "The Great Pumpkin", the former Pastor Carpenter had an Eagles themed trunk, the LoCastro's had a pirate-themed trunk, the VanGeyten's had a Noah's Ark-themed trunk, Janice Verlinghieri had a bat themed trunk, the Lazo family has a Squishmallow-themed trunk, Suzi Waldie had a Dancing Skeleton-themed trunk, and a community family had a Hows Pows-themed trunk! All trunks looked spectacular, but the winner of the Best Trunk went to Suzi Waldie for her "Skeleton Kick Up Your Heels and Boogie!" trunk. Congratulations Suzi!

We had sooo many pumpkins on our church front steps-what work went into these pumpkins! Funniest Pumpkin Winner was Elaine VanGeyten, Cutest Pumpkin Winner- Charlotte Merker, Most Creative Winner-the Lazo Family, Scariest Pumpkin Winner-Jaime Ramirez, the Hallo"weeniest" Pumpkin Winner-the Leake Family, Best Halloween Pumpkin Winner-Renee & Family!

It was so nice to see such a wonderful turn-out. Our best yet-such nice families and children. It was a nice night of fun and fellowship.

Thanks to the many people & youth group members that came out and helped and for those who supported this Community Family Event.

It was a great success!



## Friendsgiving

Holmes Church will be holding its Friendsgiving Event on Sunday, November 19th after

church. Please bring your favorite dish to share. All are welcome and bring a friend! This really is a special event being able to thank God for all our blessings with our church family! Please join us.

## Welcome the VanDykens

The VanDykens will be preaching on Sunday, November 12th. Please join us to hear their important message! After church, the Deacons will be hosting this month's Fellowship Hour.



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 will end on November 15th. 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 local food bank there is still time. Please place all nonperishable food items in the music room before November 15th.



## Treasures of Twilight

By Sarah E. Blundin

Do not say, I've nothing to give  
I'm useless and I want to die.  
For hidden in that heart of your lie treasures you  
can give, just try.  
Give the world your smiling face,  
your mellowed wisdom and inner grace.  
Your knowledge will shine for all to see,  
like a beacon light that scans the sea.  
The dizzying pace and race with time that  
mankind's goals engender here,  
Blurs the fruitful harvest gleaned by toil worn hands  
through endless years.  
No artist's brush nor poet's song,  
or learned peers can ever trace or match the  
grandeur, love and peace etched on a love  
one's aged face.  
Dedicated to senior citizens everywhere  
(especially Mary Spry)

Submitted by Mrs. Beth Carpenter

## Holiday Baskets



The adult forum will once again be sponsoring holiday baskets. The event, "the church has left the building" is scheduled for Sunday, Dec 10th. In place of our regular service, we will gather in the Social

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.



# YOUTH NEWS

It is so nice to see our youth group slowly growing in numbers. We are happy for our new faces attending. The Youth Group has been busy with Family Pumpkin Carving Night and with Trunk or Treat. Mark and I appreciate all the youth who came out to these fun events.

Our lessons have focused on the Person of God-His attributes, His power, and His expectations of His beloved creation-the human race.

We are teaching the youth-The Lord's Prayer-breaking it down (line at a time) explaining what each line means.

We thank you for all your prayers and support. The youth can use all the prayers you can give! The issues and problems they face at school are truly overwhelming.

In Christ,  
Mark and Becky



# HAPPY THANKSGIVING

# November

Holmes Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																													
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