



HOLMES HERALD

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

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Please join us on
Sunday mornings for...

April 2023



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



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

You, your family and friends are invited and encouraged to attend our Holy Week and Easter worship celebrations.

A Maundy Thursday pot luck supper will be held at 6pm on April 6th in the Social Hall; participants are asked to bring a simple pot luck item to share that serves 6-8 people, plus your own tableware. A sign up sheet will be in the Narthex. At 7:30pm there will be a church service in the Social Hall, with communion.

On *Good Friday*, April 7th, we will have our traditional worship at 1:00 PM. This is a solemn and reflective worship.

On *Easter morning*, April 9th, we will celebrate Jesus' resurrection with worship at 10:30 AM.

Please use some of the precious gift of "time" given to you by God, to deepen your personal faith and to thank God for the blessing and sacrifice of his son, Jesus Christ.



The Reason for Easter

Youth Group kids, in years past, have often asked Mark and me what is the most important Christian holiday to us? Of course, they expect us to answer "Christmas", and they are a little puzzled that we both solidly answer "Easter." And while we absolutely love Christmas, Easter hands down is the most important holy day for Christians. Yes, we celebrate the birth of our Savior at Christmas, and His birth is necessary for Easter to happen, but belief in Jesus' birth alone is not what is required to receive the gift of eternal life.

When I was 15, I went on a Winter Youth Retreat with the Holmes Youth Group. On a Saturday night, the speaker was reading in detail from the Bible what Jesus went through from the Last Supper, through the horrors of His betrayal and crucifixion, to His glorious resurrection on Easter. After he was done with the lesson, the speaker let us go outside and gave us time to think about what Jesus did for us with his death on the cross and overcoming death with His resurrection. I was so emotionally overcome, (as I was outside looking at God's winter wonderland and looking at the star-filled sky) that I fell to my knees and cried when it really hit home that Jesus died on the cross for a sinner such as me! How could I be worthy of such love? And Jesus didn't just die for me, He did it for you and all of humanity! Jesus not only forgave my sins, but the world's sin, so we can have everlasting life. Jesus had the power to save Himself, but that wasn't God's will. God sent His beloved Son to take away the sins of the world. John 3:16 states, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believes in Him, shall not perish, but have everlasting life!" It was there at that camp, that I committed my life to Christ.

As miraculous as Jesus' birth is, Jesus' death and resurrection are the single most important combination of events that gives us the promise of spending eternity with our Heavenly Father.

As Holy Week approaches, I pray that all of us take time to reflect not only on the somber events that led to Jesus' death on the cross, but also the glorious day of Easter where we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior and Lord!

Wishing you all a very blessed Easter holiday
Elder Rebecca Kalbach



We at Holmes Church are blessed to have a team of Deacons who faithfully reach out and support those in need. Every May, it is customary for them to focus their assistance on mothers in celebration of Mother's Day. Please watch for the planned collection to bless mothers and children of a selected organization in the next edition of the Holmes Herald.



OGHS OFFERING

OGHS offering will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 2nd, as is customary. Please make all checks payable to "Holmes Presbyterian Church." Offering envelopes are currently in the pews for anyone who wishes to give earlier



*Chancel
Flowers*

Just a reminder to anyone ordering chancel flowers that the cost is \$40. If you wish to have an a message printed in the bulletin along with the

flowers, please contact the office by:

- 1) Filling out the message card located with the flower chart and putting it in the offering plate with your payment.
- 2) Calling or emailing the church office

VBS 2023

VBS has been an important Christian ministry and outreach to our surrounding Holmes community neighbors and children. We are looking for volunteers to help with Vacation Bible School this summer. No dates have been set, but we need people to make this vital ministry happen. If you would like to help, please let your Session representatives know as soon as possible. Session members are Mark Kalbach, Becky Kalbach, Robert White, Angelo LoCastro, Bruce Moffatt, Elaine VanGeyten, and Ed Taylor

On May 4th, Holmes Church will be observing the National Day of Prayer. The Sanctuary will be open for prayer from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. Everyone is invited to come to the Sanctuary during these hours and offer prayers for our nation. (Use Holmes Road door). A prayer list will be provided.



Birthdays and Anniversaries in

April:

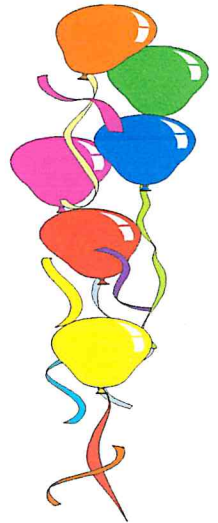
Happy Birthday to..

23 Leeann McCullough

Happy Anniversary to...

8 Larry & Linda Gloner

9 Carol & Angelo LoCastro



Happy Mothers Day & Spring Tea



For Christians, Sundays are the Lord's Day when we have the opportunity to worship God. So, each Lord's Day is special to us.

On Sunday, May 14th, our nation pays tribute to mothers. Holmes Church is grateful for the opportunity to support the mother's role in the family unit and recognizes the women of our congregation and their strong faith as one of our greatest treasures.

To recognize this day, the Deacons will be holding a Mother's Day Tea following worship. Please take some time to recognize the women and enjoy some refreshments.

BAKE/FLOWER SALE

It is that time of year when we raise money to sponsor our four children through Compassion International. Their goal is to make a difference in the lives of these children by continuing to bring the hope and love of Jesus to them by providing healthcare, food, recreational activities and Christ-centered guidance. The children we support are: Josias from Burkina Faso in Africa, Natoli from Ethiopia, Marcos from Brazil and Hurgen from Haiti. It has been through the faithful and generous support of the Holmes Church family that we have had the opportunity to show compassion for these children.

More information will be presented about our sponsored children and the Compassion program during our worship service on **Compassion Sunday, April 30th**. As you will hear on April 30th, your previous support has been life changing to these children. Our yearly Flower and Hoagie fundraiser to support this sponsorship will be held on Saturday, **May 6th, from 9 AM to 2 PM (Raindate May 13th)**. Hoagies will be available for pick up from 12-2pm and flowers will be available for pick up between 10am and 2pm.

***The deadline for all orders is April 23rd.

COMPASSION FUNDRAISER 2023

Name _____

Tel.# _____

I would like to order the following @ \$5.00 ea.

____ big boy tomato ____ jalapeno pepper
____ red bell pepper ____ cucumber ____ zucchini
____ eggplant ____ big beef steak tomatoes
____ strawberries

I would like to order geraniums (4" seeded pots) @

\$5.50 each: ____ Red ____ Salmon
____ White ____ Violet

I would like to order hanging baskets:

____ Hanging Basket Combo (**\$20**) ____ Begonia (Sun or Shade)(**\$20**) ____ Lantana (**\$20**) ____ Portulaca Trailing (**\$20**) ____ Salvia Hummingbird Falls (**\$24**)
____ 12" Combo basket (**\$25**) ____ Ivy Geranium (**\$20**)

I would like to order a flat (32 plants) of Alyssum@

\$20.00/flat: ____ Lavendar ____ White

I would like to order a flat (32 plants) of Portulaca @

\$20.00/flat: ____ mixed

I would like to order a flat (32 plants) of Vinka @

\$25.00/flat: ____ mixed ____ Pink ____ White
____ Red ____ Rose Halo ____ Deep Orchid

I would like to order a flat (32 plants) of Petunias @

\$20.00/flat: ____ Red ____ White ____ Blue Midnight
____ mixed

I would like to order a flat (32 plants) of marigolds @

\$20.00/flat ____ mixed

____ 1 gallon City Lights Dahlia (**\$8.50**)

____ Clematis (1 gallon w/trellis) @ **\$20**

Perennials in 2 gallon pots @ \$16 each

____ Phlox-Forever Pink
____ Shasta Daisy
____ Stachus Hummulo (Beautiful pink spiked plants)
____ Salvia-May Night (Dark Purple)

I would like to order hoagies @ \$5.00 each:

(indicate # next to choice)

____ Roast Beef/Cheese ____ Italian
____ Turkey/Cheese ____ Ham/Cheese

I would like a hoagie meal @ \$8.50 each:

(hoagie, chips & drink)

(indicate # next to choice)

____ Roast Beef/Cheese ____ Italian
____ Turkey/Cheese ____ Ham/Cheese

Easter Bits and Pieces

"And He said to them, "Do not be afraid. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him." Mark 16:6

Christ the Lord is risen.
Our joy that hath no end.
John of Damascus

Jesus took the tree of death so we could have
the tree of life.

Tim Keller

How sweet the sound the name of Jesus
sounds in a believer's ear! It soothes his
sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his
fear.

John Newton

The death and the burial and the Resurrection
of Jesus happened over three days. Friday was
the day of suffering and pain and agony.
Saturday was the day of doubt, confusion and
misery. But Easter, that Sunday, was the day of
hope and joy and victory

Rick Warren

God proved His love on the Cross. When Christ
hung and bled and died, it was God saying to
the world, "I love you."

Billy Graham

Amazing love! How can it be! That thou, my
God, should die for me!

Charles Wesley

Good Friday and Easter free us to think about
other things far beyond our own personal fate,
about the ultimate meaning of all life,
suffering, and events, and we lay hold of great
hope.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer



April Fellowship Hour

Please save the date of April 16th,
for our next Fellowship Hour after
worship in the Music Room. Everyone
is invited to attend! Thanks to all those friends and
members who came out for our first
(well-attended) Fellowship Hour in March!

Just a Note

So that church can start on
time, announcements will now be
made at 10:25am before the service.
Please plan to attend worship a little earlier so that
you can hear all the weekly Holmes happenings
before the service.



Did you notice?

The Trustees and Session of Holmes
Church unanimously voted to have
the two Oak trees on the Holmes
Road side of our campus, cut down, due to the
fact that they were diseased and dying. We tried
to save the Oak trees over the past several years,
but both were becoming a safety concern as
huge limbs were coming down. We didn't want a
car or person getting hit by a dead limb. Plans are
in place to replace the two trees in the same area
by next Fall.

Family Game Night

Family Game Night will take
place on Saturday, April 22nd, at
7:00pm. Bring your favorite card
and board games and a favorite
snack/dessert to share. Game night is for ALL
ages, so we hope to see you there!



Please make the following change in
your directory. Isobel Beaston has
moved to Apt E-122. All other
information for her remains the same.

YOUTH NEWS

Many thanks to all who made our annual soup luncheon and bake sale a huge success! First off, thanks to all our soup makers: the Whites (Chili, French Onion, Unstuffed Pepper Soup), the Taylors (Baked Potato Soup), Carol LoCastro (Tomato Bisque), Charlotte Merker (Escarole), and Debbie Oliver (Chicken Noodle). Many people commented how delicious all the soups were! Also, thanks to all who baked and donated to the bake table. What a spread of delicious goodies! Furthermore, thanks to Angelo LoCastro, our greeter and cashier, Carol LoCastro, bake table manager, Julie Reeder, soup kitchen manager, Kevin Reeder Sr., soup carrier, coffee maker, etc..., and to Walt Davis, who helped Mark wash the many dishes, pots and pans. We are so deeply blessed and grateful that you used your time and talents so generously to support the youth program.

We now look ahead to March 26th, where we will fill over 2000 Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt on the campus of our church. We will meet at 4pm for pizza and fill the eggs shortly thereafter. We then will meet on Saturday, April 1st at 9:30am to put the eggs out on the church grounds. The Youth Group Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt will take place Sunday, April 2nd, at 5:30pm. We will not have youth group on Easter Sunday.

Our Bible discussions will continue to focus on Jesus' ministry, last days and victorious resurrection over death. We hope to impress on our teens the importance of following Jesus' example, and the great news of His resurrection as we celebrate on Easter Sunday. Pray that our lessons will take hold on our young people and give them hope to overcome the many distractions and temptations they face that pull them away from knowing God.

Have a blessed Easter.

In Christ,

Mark and Becky



APRIL

Holmes Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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