



Holmes Herald

Holmes Presbyterian Church, PO Box 117, Holmes, PA 19043-0117

Please join us on mornings for...

April 2025



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

Pulpit Supply: Dr. J. William Carpenter
610-529-6276
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Admin. Asst.: Cheryl Steckel
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Treasurer: Angelo LoCastro
Organist; Choir Director: Mark Kalbach
Youth Director: Rebecca Kalbach
Custodian: Helen Pilgrene
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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER



Holy Week

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 on April 17th at 5:30pm 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 7:00pm there will be a church service in the Social Hall, with communion.

On Good Friday, April 18th, we will have our traditional worship at 1:00pm. This is solemn and reflective worship.

On Easter morning, April 20th, we will celebrate Jesus' resurrection with worship at 10:30am.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

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 current format of this newsletter is the result of a software issue. This format will be similar in May and June. It will be re-evaluated over the summer and a permanent look will occur in September. If you find that your birthday or anniversary is missed, please contact the church office.

The Life-Changing Power of the Cross and the Resurrection

By Debbie McDaniel



"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

The cross is empty and so is the tomb.

You can try to bury Power, but it won't stay there. You can try to bury Truth, but it is not dead. You can try to bury Love, but it cannot be contained.

Jesus is alive, He won the victory of sin and death. And He's still the same, even in all the days after the Easter weekend. He never changes.

He made a way for us to live free.

No other truth in history has the ability to change our lives and affect our future like this. Yet so many still choose to reject Christ's sacrifice and love. He offers us a choice today, and it's the best decision you could ever make.

What Christ's Death on the Cross and the Power of His Resurrection Offers:

-It provides a bridge, a way, to God. It gives us an opportunity to have a personal relationship with the very God who made us and loves us more than we could imagine. Without the cross, there is no way to cross over to the other side of relationship with him. Any attempt will fail. He is the Only Way.

-It provides opportunity for forgiveness of sin. Through the price that Jesus paid on Calvary, we have the chance to be forgiven of our own sin. He took our sin and shame upon his very shoulders. He took the blows on our behalf so we wouldn't have to suffer. Such incredible love. Such amazing sacrifice.

-It provides new life. We are not only forgiven and set free, but we have a whole new life and destiny through Christ. We are changed, from the inside. He renews our minds. He changes our hearts and desires. He gives us fresh purpose for every day set before us.

-It provides power for us to live today. When Jesus died on the cross, and was buried, it didn't stop there. The final picture of all that the cross provides lies in the powerful Resurrection of our Lord. He won. He didn't stay dead. His power broke through, and that same power is alive within us today. As believers, God gives us the power of the Holy Spirit, living and moving through us each day.

-It provides the way to have victory over the enemy. We don't have to fear him or his attacks. As we live aware of his traps, the power of Christ over our lives gives us a covering and protection from his evil schemes. We're not left to fend for ourselves. We don't fight in our own strength. We can stand strong in the Mighty Name of Jesus Christ.

-It provides for us an eternal heavenly home. We never need to fear about what will happen when we die. In Christ we have been given the gift of eternal life. This earth is only our temporary home. God is preparing a place for us, with him, to live forever. And you can be assured it will be far greater than we could ever imagine.

-It provides freedom to all those who believe. Freedom from the shackles of sin. Freedom from shame. Freedom from fear. Freedom from worry. Freedom from hopelessness. Freedom from despair. Freedom from addiction. Freedom from guilt. Freedom from darkness and eternal separation from God.

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor.15:57

Intersecting Faith & Life: Dear God, thank you for your great gift of love and sacrifice, so that we can live free. Thank you for the power of the cross and the Resurrection. We ask that the truth of it all sinks deeply into our hearts and changes us forever. Fill us fresh with your Spirit today. In Jesus' Name, Amen

Holmes Easter Egg Hunt Needs Helpers

Weather permitting, we hope to hold the Holmes Easter Egg Hunt, on Saturday, April 12th. However, we are asking for some volunteers, who would be willing to help hand out light refreshments, and flyers about our church, and cleaning up the church after the event. IF you are willing to help in any way, please see Becky Kalbach and let her know.



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 11th, 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.

The Deacons will be holding a Mother's Day Tea/luncheon following worship. Please take some time to recognize the women and enjoy some refreshments.



The following address is the new contact information for Jean Porteous. Please add the following address to your directory:

Mrs. Jean Porteous
Springfield Rehab & Healthcare Center
Room 106
463 Sproul Road
Springfield, PA 19064
Jean's phone number remains the same.

OGHS OFFERING

OGHS offering will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 13th. Please make all checks payable to "Holmes Presbyterian Church." Offering envelopes are available in the pews for anyone who wishes to give.



It is hard to believe that April 23 will be the 3rd anniversary of our Blessing Box. The Blessing Box was constructed by my son Jim and placed at the side of our church by my husband Jim, son Jim and granddaughter Abigail on April 23, 2022. This box has helped, and continues to help, countless community members who are food insecure. It acts as a 24 hour nonjudgmental emergency food pantry for those in need. It is funded by our Deacons as part of their local mission and also supported by our church family who generously donate food to keep it going. God Bless those who have made this project thrive and grow.

Gratefully,
Deacon Helen Pilgrene

Matthew 25:35

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in.

Compassion Flower Sale Needs **We Need Your HELP!**
YOU!



As many of you know the Compassion Flower Sale will take place on Saturday, May 3rd. We need MANY HELPERS to make this event possible. From the night before: getting the flower orders ready, to the morning of: setting up tables, taking flowers out, baked goods out, to manning the many tables, to taking down the tables and clean up after the event.

If you can help with any of these areas please let Ed Taylor, Dyan White, Elaine Van Geyten, or Becky Kalbach know.



Birthdays and Anniversaries in April:

Happy Birthday to...

23 Leeann McCullough

Happy Anniversary to...

8 Larry & Linda Gloner

9 Angelo & Carol LoCastro



On May 1st, Holmes Church will be observing the National Day of Prayer. The Sanctuary will be open for prayer from 9am-9pm.

Everyone is invited to come and offer prayers for our nation. (use Holmes Road door)

Know who (and whose) you are

Actor Kirk Douglas once picked up a hitchhiker. After the man got settled in Douglas's car, he turned to look more closely at the driver. Surprised to recognize the famous man at the wheel, the hitchhiker exclaimed, "Do you know who you are?!"

We would do well to ask ourselves and each other the same thing. Often, we seem to forget — or perhaps we never knew.

Through much of life, we behave as if our identity depends on our occupation, wealth, family line, daily accomplishments or good deeds. But none of these — not even the last one — determines the core of who we are. All that matters is our Creator's opinion, and God loves us with abundant, unconditional love.

Do you know who you are? You are God's beloved child! And so is everyone else. May we live out that knowledge, treating one another as such. —Heidi Hyland Mann

A note to Elaine VanGeyten from Loaves and Fishes

February 21, 2025

Ms. Elaine VanGeyten

Holmes Presbyterian Church

375 Holmes Road

Holmes, PA 19043

Dear Elaine,

Thank you for the help you provided to our families at the pantry in 2024. In-kind donations are so important to us at the pantry because they add to our supply of essential foods but they also provide extras that we do not purchase such as condiments, sugar, flour, cooking oil, spices and so on. Your donations totaled 277 pounds last year which was mainly produce from your garden. Fresh produce is always very welcome because it is usually so expensive at the stores. Your hard work certainly benefits our families. May God bless you, and we hope you have a great new year.

Yours in Christ,

Lana Lindenmuth



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 12th at 11:00 am on the Holmes Church campus for children pre-k to 5th grade.

After the hunt there will be Easter story time on the front steps, soft pretzels, and other light refreshments.

If it rains, we will have an Easter Egg Drive by...which will be first come, first served. We will start bringing Easter Eggs to cars on Academy Avenue promptly at 11:00am.



FLOWER/BAKE SALE

It is that time of year when we raise money to sponsor our four children through Compassion International. The goal of this organization is to make a difference in the lives of these children by continuing to bring the hope and love of Jesus. They do this through providing schooling opportunities, 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.

As you heard on Compassion Sunday, March 30th, your previous and current support has been life changing to these children. Our yearly Flower and Hoagie fundraiser to support these sponsorships will be held on Saturday, May 3rd, from 9am-2pm (Raindate May 10th). Hoagies will be available for pickup from 12-2pm and flowers will be available for pick up between 10am-2pm

***The deadline for orders is April 20th.

COMPASSION FUNDRAISER 2025

Name _____

Tel # _____

I would like to order geraniums (5" pots) @ \$7.50 each:

_____ Red _____ White _____ Pink

_____ Salmon _____ Purple

I would like to order hanging baskets (10') @ \$22 each:

_____ Lantana _____ Calibrachoa

_____ New Guinea Impatiens

_____ Ivy Geranium

I would like to order a flat (32 plants) @ \$23/ flat:

Petunia flats

_____ Red _____ White _____ Blue Midnight

_____ Mixed _____ Orchid

Vinca flats

_____ Pink _____ Red _____ White _____ Rose

Begonia flats

_____ Red _____ White _____ Pink

Marigolds

_____ Mixed

Please direct any flower questions to Elaine VanGeyten

I would like to order hoagies @\$7.50 each: (indicate #)

_____ Roast Beef/Cheese _____ Italian

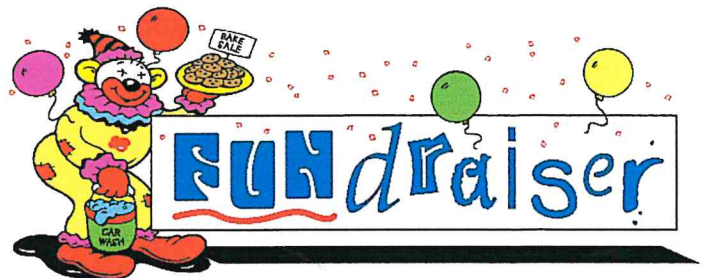
_____ Turkey/Cheese _____ Ham/Cheese

I would like to order a hoagie lunch @ \$9.50 each:

_____ Roast Beef/Cheese _____ Italian

_____ Turkey/Cheese _____ Ham/Cheese

Please direct any hoagie questions to Ed Taylor



YOUTH NEWS

The Holmes Youth Group would like to give a big thank you to all those who baked delicious treats for our bake table (thank you Lynn Krautheim and Carter for manning the baked good table) , pre-ordered soup, came out for the soup luncheon, and who made savory soups(The LoCastro's, Whites, Taylors, and Debbie Oliver) for our Soup Luncheon! It was a most successful day and we made over 1000.00, so thank you to everyone who supported our group. It is greatly appreciated!!!!!!

With the soup luncheon out of the way, we now focus on the Holmes Easter Egg Hunt. We will be filling Easter Eggs on Sunday, April 6th, at 4:30. We will start with a pizza dinner and then we will start filling eggs at 5 pm. We need to fill a lot of eggs and if anyone is interested in joining us, please do! We will then meet on Saturday, April 12th, at 9:30 am for donuts and then to put out 2000+ eggs on the church campus.

(**Youth Group Please Note: Our Youth Group Candy Scavenger Hunt will take place on Sunday, April 13th at 5 pm.)

Youth Group lessons this month will focus on Jesus, from the Last Supper, to the events on Good Friday, to Jesus's resurrection on Easter.

Thank you again for your continued prayers and support! We wish you all a most blessed Easter!

In Christ,

Mark and Becky



April

Holmes Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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		6 9:15 AM Adult Forum 10:30 AM Children's Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM Youth Group	7 8:00 AM OTHG 12:00 PM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM NA Meeting	8 9:30 AM Knitting/Sewing 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	9 4:00 PM Crew 143	10 7:00 PM Men's Support Group	11 8:00 PM A.A. Meeting	12 11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt 																																																																																									
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