

HOLMES HERALD

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

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Crew 143 registration form (insert)

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

Adult Forum:

9:15 AM

Children's Sunday School:

10:30 AM

Traditional worship service:

10:30 AM



World Communion

This coming Sunday, October 5th, congregations around the globe will celebrate World Communion Sunday. Most of us have heard about World Communion Sunday but may not know much about where the celebration originated. According to the website of the National Council of Churches, World Communion Sunday began in 1936 in the Presbyterian Church and was adopted by the Federal Council of Churches (predecessor of the NCC) in 1940. Since then, the celebration has grown into an international ecumenical celebration of Christian unity. The key word for World Communion Sunday is communion, or unity. It is a day when we mark the almost universal Christian practice of breaking bread with one another and remembering both the night of Jesus' betrayal—when Jesus instituted what we now call the Lord's Supper as a lasting remembrance—and of Jesus' sacrifice. World Communion Sunday is on the Christian calendar for a reason: it can and should be a time of profound Christian unity, marked by our shared celebration of the Lord's Supper. Jesus instituted the first such meal, and World Communion Sunday is a helpful way in which Christ calls us back together to celebrate the liturgy "in remembrance of me."

Why do Bad Things Happen to Good People?

Mark and I were talking to our Youth during our Youth Meeting tonight. One of the youth remarked that September was a bad month with all the bad things that made the headlines in the news and they were feeling a little overwhelmed. This diverted our original Bible discussion and we started talking about "Why do Bad Things Happen to Good People?" which coincidentally is what Pastor Carpenter preached about today in church. So why do bad things happen to Christians?

We live in a world of pain and suffering. There is no one who is not affected by the harsh realities of life, and the question "why do bad things happen to good people?" is one of the most difficult questions in all of theology. God is sovereign, so all that happens must have at least been allowed by Him, if not directly caused by Him. At the outset, we must acknowledge that human beings, who are not eternal, infinite, or omniscient, cannot expect to fully understand God's purposes and ways.

I found this excellent and helpful article on Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People on Got Questions Ministry which I would like to share with you.

The book of Job deals with the issue of why God allows bad things to happen to good people. Job was a righteous man (Job 1:1), yet he suffered in ways that are almost beyond belief. God allowed Satan to do everything he wanted to Job except kill him, and Satan did his worst. What was Job's reaction? "Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him" (Job 13:15). "The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised" (Job 1:21). Job did not understand why God had allowed the things He did, but he knew God was good and therefore continued to trust in Him. Ultimately, that should be our reaction as well.

Why do bad things happen to good people? As hard as it is to acknowledge, we must remember that there are no "good" people, in the absolute sense of the word. All of us are tainted by and infected with sin (Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8). As Jesus said, "No one is good—except God alone" (Luke 18:19). All of us feel the effects of sin in one way or another. Sometimes it's our own personal sin; other times, it's the sins of others. We live in a fallen world, and we experience the effects of the fall. One of those effects is injustice and seemingly senseless suffering.

When wondering why God would allow bad things to happen to good people, it's also good to consider these four things about the bad things that happen:

1) Bad things may happen to good people in this world, but this world is not the end. Christians have an eternal perspective: "We do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal" (2 Corinthians 4: 16-18). We will have a reward some day, and it will be glorious.

2) Bad things happen to good people, but God uses those bad things for an ultimate, lasting good. "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28). When Joseph, innocent of wrongdoing, finally came through his horrific sufferings, he was able to see God's good plan in it all (Genesis 50: 19-21).

Using Our Time, Talents, and Finances



Sunday, September 21, Pastor Bill's sermon was on using our spiritual gifts. 1 Peter 4:10 says "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." God has blessed us all in many ways and has enabled us to obtain all that we have. However, these blessings and talents that the Lord has given us are not free. God expects to use them for the good of His kingdom. Ways we can do this brings to mind two annual events that are coming up; our Stewardship Campaign and the Nominating Committee.

The Stewardship Campaign asks us to give back to God a portion of what he has given us. The Old Testament expected people to tithe (give 10%) of the first fruits. This was given so that the people could remember that everything comes from the Lord and that we are to be thankful for what He has given us. This tithe was used to provide for the Levite priests. With the New Testament and the coming of Christ, we do not fall under the Levitical Law. 2 Corinthians 9:7 says "Let each one do just as he has resolved in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Hebrews 13:5 says "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have because God has said I will never leave you: never will I forsake you." Over the past few years, only 52% of the members and friends of Holmes Church have been willing to return the pledge slips they received and put their commitment (pledge) to God in writing. We are asking this year that each of you look at all God has blessed you with over the years and return the pledge slip you receive with your written commitment to return to God a portion of what He has given you, so His work can be continued through His vessel, Holmes Church. The Lord has graciously given us what finances we have, and we should use them for His glory. Let us honor Him in how we spend each dime and give back to Him what is already His.

The second event is the Nominating Committee. Each year this committee meets to seek members to serve God in certain capacities such as Elders, Deacons and Trustees. This is another way we can use the gifts God has given us for His good. The Bible says everyone is called to serve God by serving others. Galatians 5:13 says "You my brothers were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather serve one another in love." We are not saved by serving, but are saved for serving. We are hoping, that if you are asked to serve, you search your heart and prayerfully ask for God's guidance in making your decision.

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.



Fall Flower Sale

A huge THANK YOU to all who made our Fall Flower Sale possible! God provided a beautiful day to hold our event!

Thank you to all the many helping hands who helped make this event possible and for those who bought flowers and/or baked delicious items to add to our bake table.

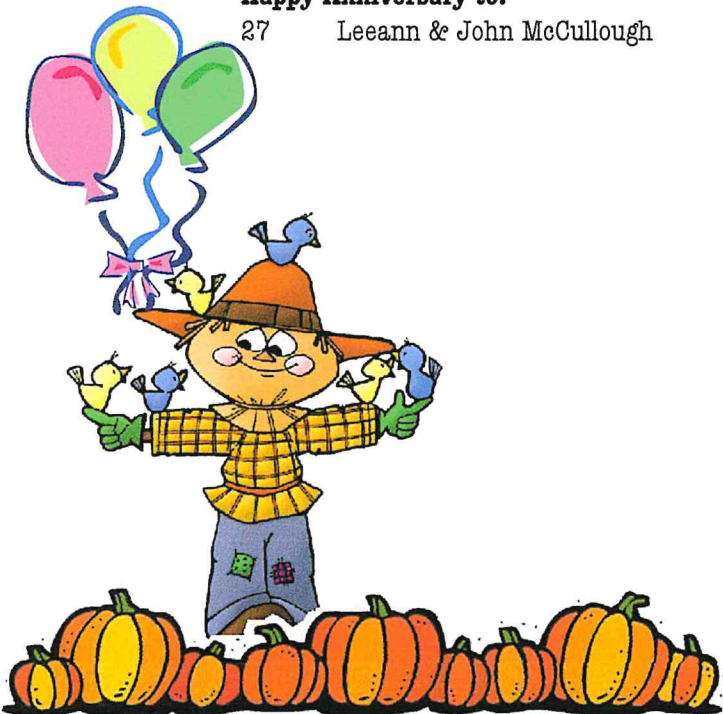
October Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 John VanGeyten, Jr.
- 1 Robert White
- 13 Gene Zimmerman
- 19 Eileen Cowdell
- 27 Dyan White

Happy Anniversary to:

- 27 Leeann & John McCullough



Food Collection

The Deacons are once again collecting food to help others.

This year the food drive will benefit the Blessing Box on our church campus and the food boxes we give out to help our community members who are food insecure. The list below is a suggestion list for the Blessing Box. Anything donated will be gratefully accepted and passed along to help our community neighbors.

Your overwhelming generous support in the past has touched the lives of the people struggling in our local community. Let's do what we can to help again this year!

Non-perishable food items

(please remember to check the expiration dates)

- Canned meats (ex. tuna fish)
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Cereal
- Hamburger Helper
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauces
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Rice
- Side Dishes (ex. au gratin potatoes, noodle mixes)
- Soup

Home/Personal Items

- Toilet Tissue
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Soap

Please place all food items in the music room. The bags will be available for the start of the collection on October 26th. The collection ends on November 16th.

Family Pumpkin Carving Night



On Sunday, October 19th, 2025, we will hold our annual Family Pumpkin Carving Night. Please join us for pizza and a fun night of carving pumpkins. We will meet for dinner at 4:30 pm in the social hall and will promptly start carving pumpkins at 5:15 p.m. Pumpkin carving stencils and tools will be provided or you can bring your own. This event is for EVERYONE...young or old, family or no family. Please just bring a dessert to share. Registration forms will be forthcoming. Pumpkins will also be provided at a low cost. Please see Becky Kalbach if you have any questions.

On Saturday, October 4th (raindate October 11th) from 9am-12pm we will hold a "Free For All" event to meet the needs of the community. Free winter clothing and non-perishable food will be given away. If you know of someone who can benefit from the clothing/food giveaway, please spread the word.



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.

Holmes Church is holding its annual Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 24th from 5 to 7. Please join us as we set up our cars on the church campus. If you are interested in participating in the Trunk or Treat, please see Becky Kalbach. We had sooooo much fun last year and we hope we can have new faces and cars join us! Like last year prizes will go to best decorated car. We will also hold our pumpkin carving contest...prizes will go to most original/creative pumpkin, scariest, funniest, cutest and most Halloweeniest. Forms will be available if you want to register your car and for you to register your pumpkin. We hope you will join us!



Save the Date:

On Sunday, October 26th, 2025 please join us as the VanDyken's lead us in worship. Carol and Daryl Van Dyken are missionaries with Trans World Radio. People around the world are hearing about the Good News of Jesus through the radio and digital media. TWR – international Christian media ministry, is an organization that spreads the Gospel through the airwaves. This group has partner offices in 190 countries around the world, broadcasting the Gospel in more than 230 languages.



The Women's Adventure Group will meet on October 2nd at 10:30am. All are welcome to attend. If you are able to come, please email Suzi Waldie: suziwaldie3@gmail.com so that she can plan accordingly.

YOUTH NEWS

While it is encouraging to witness how our young people are becoming more aware of the world around them, it is also a stark reality that many of the events they see are very upsetting and confusing. We are getting more questions about why bad things happen to "good" people, certainly in light of the recent school shootings and the murder of Charlie Kirk.

We need to be sensitive to their fear about their futures. They are starting to become aware that unexplainable things can happen that are unfair and make little sense. Our discussions will focus on the need to communicate with God in prayer to direct our daily steps.

We celebrated two birthdays in September (Angie Mancini and Jax Supplee). Congratulations to you both!

For the month of October we have scheduled our group pumpkin carving for October 19th, and the annual Trunk or Treat for Friday, October 24th. These are two very popular events for our young people and they look forward to them each year.

Please pray the youth will be receptive to God's word and to committing themselves to our program. There are endless diversions that compete for their attention and their free time.

Thank you for your continued support for the youth ministry.

In Christ,

Mark and Becky



3) Bad things happen to good people, but those bad things equip believers for deeper ministry. "Praise be to . . . the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ" (2 Corinthians 1: 3-5). Those with battle scars can better help those going through battles.

4) Bad things happen to good people, and the worst things happened to the best Person. Jesus was the only truly Righteous One, yet He suffered more than we can imagine. We follow in His footsteps: "If you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly" (1 Peter 2: 20-23). Jesus is no stranger to our pain.

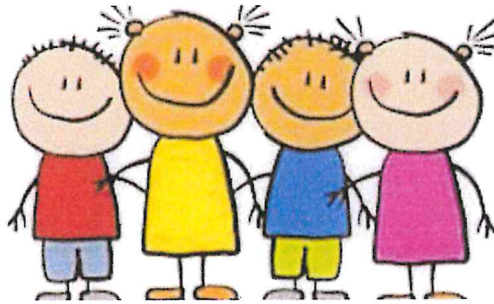
Romans 5:8 declares, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Despite the sinful nature of the people of this world, God still loves us. Jesus loved us enough to die to take the penalty for our sins (Romans 6:23). If we receive Jesus Christ as Savior (John 3:16; Romans 10: 9), we will be forgiven and promised an eternal home in heaven (Romans 8:1).

God allows things to happen for a reason. Whether or not we understand His reasons, we must remember that God is good, just, loving, and merciful (Psalm 134:5: 3). Often, bad things happen to us that we simply cannot understand. Instead of doubting God's goodness, our reaction should be to trust Him. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3: 5-6). We walk by faith, not by sight.

CREW 143

FIRST THRU FIFTH GRADERS

Holmes Presbyterian Church - use parking lot entrance



JOIN OUR AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP , ON **WEDNESDAYS, FROM 4:00PM TO 5:30PM.** OUR 90 MINUTES TOGETHER IS JAM- PACKED WITH STORIES, DISCUSSIONS, CRAFTS, MUSIC AND ALL KINDS OF SURPRISES. IT IS ALL FREE, BUT WE DO ASK THAT YOU REGISTER FOR COMMUNICATION PURPOSES. WE'VE GOT A PLACE JUST WAITING FOR YOU! **WE START ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH!!!**

TO REGISTER: COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND DROP OFF AT THE CHURCH OFFICE OR BRING WITH YOU THE FIRST DAY.

ALL YOUNG PEOPLE MUST BE SIGNED IN AND OUT BY AN ADULT.

REGISTRATION FORM:

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ GRADE: _____

PHONE NO. : _____

EMAIL: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____

PHONE NO.: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO CREW MEMBER: _____

PLEASE ALERT US OF ALL ALLERGIES AND MEDICAL ISSUES:

FOR COMMUNICATION : EMAIL US AT suziwaldie3@gmail.com



Holmes Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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