

# HOLMES HERALD

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

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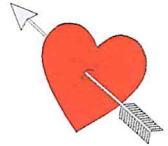
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Please join us on  
Sunday mornings for...

**February 2025**

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



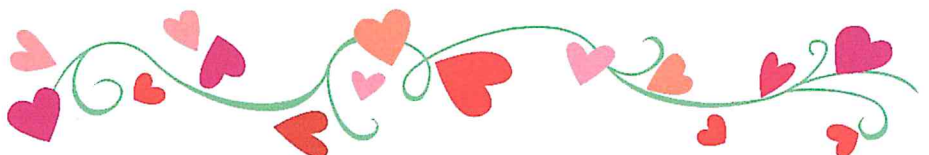
Following worship on February 2, 2025, all members are invited to attend the annual meetings of the congregation and the corporation. These are the informative meetings at which the officers and organizations report the stewardship of the leadership in 2024. The Nominating Committee and Auditor for 2025 are elected. We value your presence at this important meeting. YOU ARE HOLMES CHURCH!!!

## Presbyterian Mission Support Fund



Per Capita Offering

During the month of February, members of Holmes Church are asked to make your Presbyterian Mission Support offering. Each member should use the blue envelope provided in your General Fund envelope box. The Philadelphia Presbytery, The Synod of the Trinity and the General Assembly ask all churches to submit \$37 per member in order to support the administration of our Presbyterian mission program. Please place the blue envelopes in the offering plate.



## Happy 118 th Anniversary Holmes Church!

The roots of Holmes Presbyterian Church go back to 1897 with the concern of Misses Mary and Margaret Holmes for a Sunday School in this area. With help from various Presbyterian Ministers and the Presbytery of Chester, the Holmes Presbyterian Sabbath School was begun. Later, a lot on Hannum Avenue and Holmes Road was purchased. A chapel was built and first used in 1907. The Presbytery of Chester officially organized the Church on February 18, 1909, with 21 charter members. The congregation moved into a new building at MacDade Blvd. and Holmes Rd. in 1920. As the membership grew, the present Sanctuary was constructed and became our new church home in 1954. In 1963, the Christian Education building was added.

Here at Holmes Church we have so much to be grateful for; we are grateful to God for allowing us to be a part of this community for so long; we are grateful to the Holmes sisters for their vision and willingness to serve God and educate others; we are grateful for the hard work, sacrifice and devotion to God of our past members who helped lay the physical and spiritual foundation of our current church; we are grateful to our present members whose hard work, sacrifice and devotion to God parallels and enhances all that our forefathers have done. Their adaptability and visions for the future are allowing us to change and seek new ways to serve God in the present and the future.

This year's Anniversary theme is blessings. There are many Bible verses on blessings in the Bible:

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Psalms 118:26. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

We bless you from the house of the LORD.'

Numbers 6: 24-26 The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make His face shine upon you,

And be gracious to you;

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,

And give you peace.

Psalms 119:2 Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart.

Holmes Church has been a blessing for over 118 years to our congregation and to the community. In the next week or so friends, members, former youth group members, former members will be asked to fill out prepared forms that will say: "Holmes Church has blessed my life because....." We kindly ask that you state how Holmes Church has blessed your life. You may sign it or leave it anonymous. Our goal is to collect 118 blessings. If we get more, that would be wonderful! Blessings will be then hung up in the church on our Anniversary Sunday, February, 23 rd. We hope you will help us out in this endeavor.

Everyone is invited to stay after the service for a light luncheon/tea after church to celebrate our 118th anniversary and to welcome our newest members to our church: Gene and Barbara Zimmerman!

In Christ,

The Holmes Session



## Daylight Saving Time Begins

Looking ahead to brighter days! Spring Daylight Saving Time begins on March 9th. The spring time change means that we lose an hour of sleep because we turn our clocks forward an hour at bedtime on Saturday night. In order to be in worship on time on March 9th, make sure your clocks are changed when you retire on Saturday, March 8th.

### Holmes Presbyterian Church 118th Anniversary (1907-2025)



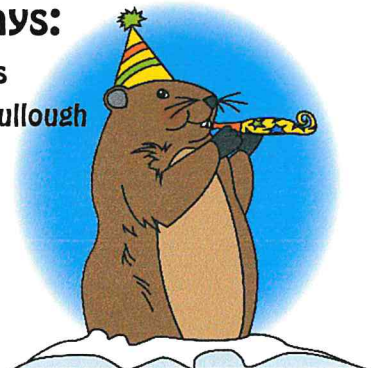
Early in the 20th century, on February 18, 1907, Holmes Presbyterian Church was organized with 21 charter members. So, in 2025, we are grateful that we can celebrate our 118th anniversary. Please join us in worship on February 23rd as we thank God for allowing us another year of ministry in Holmes.



The Deacons are looking for any unwanted vases you may have at home. The desired height is approximately 10-12" tall. If you have vases to donate, please put them in the music room.

### February Birthdays:

- 9 Eileen Stevens
- 15 Brandon McCullough
- 24 Monica Ferry



You were the answer to many prayers in January. How? By supporting the Deacons which allowed them to help those in need. The Deacons would like to thank those who continue to donate food items to the Blessings Box/Food Box programs and clothing to our clothing closet. Through your generosity, struggling individuals and families in our community who are food insecure are helped with food boxes and hungry people can retrieve food through the blessing box day or night. We have also been able to meet the needs of people who call requesting warm winter clothing. Thank you for showing God's love to those in need.

### Love makes us worthy

Unlike God, who loves unconditionally, humans often make choices and set limits when doling out affection. But Thomas Merton reminds us, "Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy. That is not our business and, in fact, it is nobody's business. What we are asked to do is to love, and this love itself will render both ourselves and our neighbors worthy."

As for how to develop and maintain that type of love? Merton shares, "It is in deep solitude that I find the gentleness with which I can truly love my [neighbors]."



As a church family we offer our heartfelt sympathy to Chris Morrison and her family. Jim Morrison went home to be with the Lord on January 23rd. He was a great servant of God and Holmes Church for many years.

# YOUR CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2025

It is with grateful hearts that Holmes Church expresses their deepest appreciation to the following people for their commitment and willingness to lead us in the new year. We pray that God will bless their efforts giving them courage in their leadership, compassion in their service and wisdom in their decisions.

The following persons are your elected leaders for 2025. You are encouraged to contact them if you have a question, suggestion, or a concern about the church, or a particular need.

## **SESSION**

Becky Kalbach, Mark Kalbach, Lynn Krauthem, Angelo LoCastro, Ed Taylor, Lisa Taylor, Elaine VanGeyten, Suzi Waldie, Bob White, Dyan White.

## **DEACONS**

Charlotte Merker, Leeann McCullough, Sue Mulhern, Debbie Lucas, Helen Pilgrene, Eileen Stevens, Amanda Taylor and Peg Walter.

## **SESSION'S MINISTRY TEAMS**

In our Presbyterian Church, government of the local congregation generally rests in the Session--the Elders elected by the members of the church.

*For information regarding the following ministry team members, please see any Session member*

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

### **FINANCE**

### **WORSHIP**

### **COMMUNITY/OUTREACH**

### **PROPERTY**

## **BOARD OF DEACONS**

Responsible for ministry to sick, less fortunate and benevolence (mission) giving.

President	Leeann McCullough	Vice President	Helen Pilgrene
Secretary	Leeann McCullough	Treasurer	Amanda Taylor
Flowers	Debbie Oliver	Cards	Sue Mulhern
Special Missions	Peggy Walter		
General Missions	Charlotte Merker		
Communion	Eileen Stevens		
Teas	Debbie Lucas		
Blessing Box/Food Boxes	Helen Pilgrene		

Questions/requests about the clothing closet can be directed to Helen Pilgrene.



## MISSIONARY UPDATES

### **ADAM AND LAURA ATKINSON/ WORLD OUTREACH MINISTRIES/ Regenerate Movement**

They have been hosting Sunday gatherings fostering discipleship and meaningful connections. With the introduction of a monthly subscription and participation in local farmers market their organic coffee business expanded

In August, a new Sea Star discipleship group was launched designed for Christian entrepreneurs in Miami. A group member and entrepreneur El Elyon was highlighted for handcrafted Christian dolls. See photo below with Adam and Laura's daughters (Jazzy and Mia) with dolls:



Mia and Jazzy first day of school

Closing of Abortion Center: For the last three years, Adam and Laura have been collaborating with Love Life and walked in prayer at a former S. Florida abortion center. The center has officially closed. Since the closing of the center, 114 babies have been saved. The church has the keys to the abortion center.

### **Adam and Laura ask for prayers for:**

Young mom, Isabella had a difficult pregnancy and lost baby due to SIDS,  
Continued prayers for Sea Star discipleship group, Sunday church gatherings and for growth of coffee business.

### **Paul and Linda Cruz / Chosen People**

Continued prayers for Paul Cruz as he is adjusting to losing eyesight in one eye due to torn retina. Prayers for his wife, Linda as she was juggling a full-time job while caring for Paul.

### **Paul and Lori Dickason /Retired/Campus Crusades for Christ**

After 48 years with Campus Crusades and the last 40 in Hungary, Paul has officially retired and has been appointed Staff Emeritus with the organization. With this title he can still travel and teach on a volunteer basis. They will now have more time to spend with family here in states.

### **Daryl and Carol VanDyken/TWR**

Daryl continues work with TWR program files online, making sure of correct entry so they can get from the producers to transmitter sites. It is hundreds of thousands of files in all.

In February, Daryl will be 70 and go down to 10 hrs weekly with TWR. They look forward to visiting the church again toward the middle to end of this year.

Prayers for them as they begin a semi retirement.

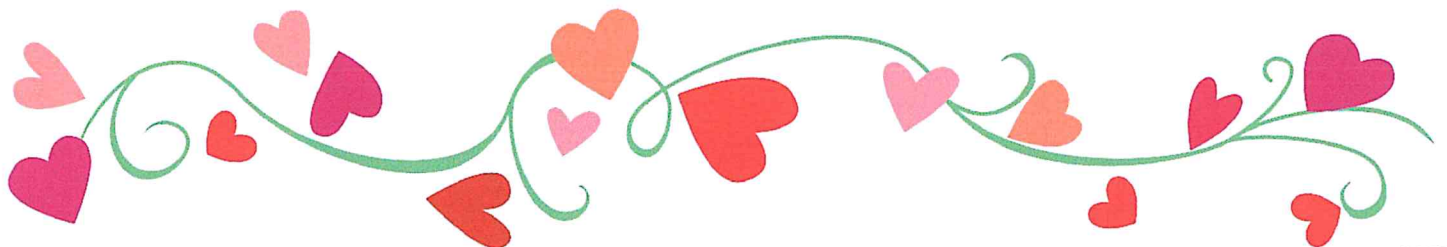
# YOUTH NEWS

January of 2025 has gotten off to a slow start post-holiday season for the Holmes Youth Group, as inclement weather and family obligations have limited our ability to meet with regularity.

Still, we are committed to moving forward in February with plans to study from the Word of God about "Love" – not just the way we should demonstrate love and care for others, but to learn about the supreme and perfect love that God has shown us through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Please pray for a sustained growth for our group, We have seen some new faces come out to join us for a Sunday night, but are having difficulty getting them to commit to joining us every week and making Youth Group an integral part of their routine. Our young people face many pressures and distractions that compete for their time and energy. Pray also for patience for Becky and I, as we seek new ways and methods to connect with this youngest of generations, and that their ears and minds will be open to learning and growing in their fledgling faiths.

In Christ,  
Mark and Becky



**2025 Schedule of Events-Tentative**  
**Holmes Presbyterian Church Calendar Year**

- \*January 26th: Fellowship Hour**
- \*Feb 2nd-Annual Meeting @11:30 in church sanctuary**
- \*Feb 23rd-118th Church Anniversary & Celebration/ Welcoming of New Members**
- \*Feb 28th/March 1st: Holmes Drama Club Performances**
- \*March 9th: Daylight Savings-Spring Ahead & Lenten Communion**
- \*March 15th-Soup Luncheon @ 11:30 am**
- \*March 16th: Fellowship Hour**
- \*March 20th: First Day of Spring**
- \*April 6th-Pizza Dinner & Fill Easter Eggs @4:30 pm**
- \*April 12th-Easter Egg Hunt @ 11:00**
- \*April 13th-Palm Sunday**
- \*April 17th-Maunday Thursday Communion Service @ 7:00 pm**  
**Community Casserole Dinner @ 5:30 pm**
- \*April 18th-Good Friday Service @ 1:00pm**
- \*April 20th-Easter Sunday @ 10:30 am**
- \*April 27th-Compassion Sunday**
- \*May 1st-National Day of Prayer**
- \*May 3rd-Compassion Sale with May 10th as Rain Date**
- \*May 11th-Mother's Day Luncheon**
- \*May 25th-Memorial Day/Recognition of Veterans/Flag Ceremony**
- \*June 1st-10:00 am Summer Worship Starts**
- \*June 8th Pentecost/Communion**
- \*June 15th-Father's Day Tea**
- \*June 23rd to June 27th-VBS?**
- \*June 29th-July 4th Recognition**
- \*August 3rd-Summer Communion**
- \*August-Kids Stuff?**
- \*September 7th-Church resumes Fall schedule @10:30 am (Grandparent's Day)**

- \*September 14th-Ygroup Resumes**
- \*September 16th-Chancel Choir Resumes**
- \*September 21st-Fellowship Hour**
- \*September 20th or 27th: Fall Fest ?**
- \*October 5th-World Day of Communion**
- \*October 12th-Fellowship Hour**
- \*October 19th-Family Pumpkin Carving Night**
- \*October 24th-Trunk or Treat/Pumpkin Carving Contest**
- Community Night (Raindate October 25th)**
- \*November 2nd- Daylight Savings-Fall Back /All Saints Day**
- \*November 23rd-Friendsgiving**
- \*November 26th-Thanksgiving Eve Service**
- \*November 29th: Hanging of the Greens**
- \*November 30th-First Sunday of Advent/Communion**
- \*December 14th-Mission Worship Sunday/Happy Birthday Jesus Celebration**
- \*Dec 15-17th: Painting w/o Twist & Cookie Walk?**
- \*Dec 21st-Music Worship/Christmas Tea-First Day of Winter**
- \*December 24th-Christmas Eve**
- 7:00 Family Worship/Communion Service**
- \*December 28th: Informal 10:00am Worship/Fellowship Hour**
- \*January 4th, 2026: New Year Communion**



# Love February

Holmes Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <caption>Jan 2025</caption> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <caption>Mar 2025</caption> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>						S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						1
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