

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER



1637 Holly Grove Drive, Bumpass, VA 23024 (804) 556-1138

### *Holly Grove Christian Church*

*Established 1873*

#### **"BITS FROM BOB – SITTING AT MY WINDOW"**

SITTING AT MY WINDOW LOOKING OUT INTO THE DARK OF NIGHT  
WONDERING ABOUT THE DRIVE TO HOLLY GROVE I WILL MAKE TONIGHT.

IT SEEMS TOO LATE TO MAKE THIS TRIP,  
BUT SINCE I HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO, I WILL MAKE IT QUICK.

WHAT IS IT I WILL SHARE? I HAVE NO IDEA. BUT I NEED TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING QUICK.  
HOPEFULLY IT WILL BE BEAUTIFUL PHRASES THAT WILL BE SMOOTH AS SILK.

BUT MORE THAN LIKELY I WILL MUMBLE, BUMBLE AND STUMBLE AS THE WORDS FALL FROM MY LIPS.  
"WHAT DID HE SAY?," THEY WILL ASK, " THIS MESSAGE IS LIKE A STEADY FAUCET DRIP."

SO MANY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS HAVE COME AND GONE,  
AND YET THE ANTICIPATION OF THIS NIGHT IS EVER SO STRONG.

NEW MEMORIES WILL BE MADE AND STORIES WILL BE SHARED;  
I HOPE NOT TOO MANY FOLKS THIS PAST SUNDAY, AT THAT GOAT DID STARE.

THERE WILL BE WALKS DOWN THE AISLE FOR A BRIDE TO MAKE,  
AND JOURNEYS TO PLACES OF ONES LOVED TO TAKE.

I HOPE ALL IS WELL IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF PEOPLE I LOVE,  
AND AS FOR ME, I PRAY FOR STRENGTH THAT COMES ONLY FROM ABOVE.

TIME FLASHES BY AND SOON A NEW YEAR WILL APPEAR;  
WE ALL JOURNEY FROM ONE THING TO ANOTHER BUT AS WE COME HOME TO GOD HIS LOVE IS ALWAYS THERE.

GOD IS WITH US, THAT'S FOR SURE AND SOON HIS PATH TO TAKE WILL BE SHOWN.  
A REVELATION OF HIS SON GOD WILL BE MADE KNOWN.

STILL SITTING BY MY WINDOW LOOKING OUT INTO THE DARK OF NIGHT.  
WAITING AND HOPING FOR A FLICKER OF LIGHT.

I thank you for your prayers, encouragement and kindness extended to me this past year. I look forward to the new year with hope and joy as we journey together.

God Bless and see you on our journey through a new year.

Bobby

## Announcements

- The Church sanctuary renovation is finally on the way! Special thanks to the Holly Grove Rescue Squad organization for allowing us to use their building as a meeting place for our Worship services. We are truly thankful to them! We will continue to have both Worship services on Sundays (morning at 10:30 a.m. and evening "Sunday Supper" at 6:00 p.m. with fourth Sunday evenings with a dinner meal.)
  - Our next bi-monthly board meeting will be on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> after the morning Worship service. If you have a concern or idea, stay and join us. Board members include elders and deacons.
  - We will continue to have the Children Worship and Wonder Program on Sunday mornings for children ages 3 - 9 at 10:45 a.m. The group has a wonderful area upstairs in the Rescue Building for their Bible lesson and program.
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- We have several Bible Studies during the week for adults. The Ladies group meets on Monday mornings at 10:00 am. There are two adult groups for men and women that meet with Pastor Bob on Wednesdays. These sessions are at 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. All the groups will have their studies at church in the Ladies Sunday School Classroom. Come dig deep in God's word and enjoy fellowship together!
  - The CYF will also continue to meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. with Pastor Andy. This group will meet at Elpis Christian Church for now.
  - The Adult Choir will not be practicing until further notice due to the sanctuary renovation.
  - The Holly Grove Crafters' Club will be meeting at church in the Ladies Sunday School Classroom on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.
  - The Pruners Food Pantry will be open at church on the fourth Saturdays of the month from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. There is also the "Food Box" located outside the fellowship hall door with items available for those that may be in need for just a few things. If you would like to help the Pruners, see, or email Dianne at [dianne.montgomery1949@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.montgomery1949@gmail.com).
  - There will be no "Family Game Nights" held while the renovation is going on.
  - The Men's breakfast gathering will be on the fourth Sunday in January at 8:30 a.m. and will resume on the third Sunday in February and will be in the meeting area at the rescue squad building. We invite all men to come out for a cup of coffee, Danish, bagel and great discussion and fellowship! If you should have any questions, see Byron Wilson.

## New Baby



Congratulations to Skylar Barnes and Landen Moore on the birth of their daughter Copelynn Saige Moore. She was born on December 8<sup>th</sup>, weighed 7 lbs., 4 oz. and was 21 inches long. We are so thrilled for them and wish them many blessings!

## Welcome Home Lipscomb Family



We are so happy that Adam, Kathryn, Hunter and Everett are back in the United States from their time in Spain as Kathryn serves as a doctor in the U.S. Navy. They are now in their new home in Virginia. Their address is 820 Birch Forest Court, Chesapeake, VA 23322.

This beautiful picture was taken in Spain when Dale and Dawn visited them.

## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Holly Grove Christian Church will be turning 150 years old this year and we plan to celebrate this Fall. The planning committee is asking for congregational members to start collecting items that can be shared on this day. These items will help show the history of our church. Anything such as pictures, writings, or any kind of memorabilia that would be interesting about the life of our church throughout the many years would make this day even more special. At some point, closer to the celebration, we will be asking for those items. Please label them with your name so they can be returned afterwards. This is such an exciting year in the life of our church!

## Church Closing or Delay



If we should have inclement weather, please turn your TV to Channel 6 and watch for closing information. We will also send out an email, post on Facebook (if possible, depending on internet access) and make calls to those who attend regularly if church is closed.

## **Elder and Deacon Serving List** **January 8<sup>th</sup> through March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

### **Group I**

Dianne Montgomery  
Steve Montgomery  
Bill Baxter  
Steven Klein  
Josh Lloyd  
Byron Wilson

**Group I will be serving: January 8  
January 29  
February 19**

### **Group II**

Tammy Mayo  
Gwen Rose  
Avery Clough  
Jeff Clough  
Diane Rigsby  
Hunter Trayer

**Group II will be serving: January 15  
February 5  
February 26**

### **Group III**

Jane Harris  
Pam Hart  
Matthew Kruep  
Dawn Lipscomb  
Zach Lipscomb  
Arthur Sigmund

**Group III will be serving: January 22  
February 12  
March 5**



## **CW&W Program Schedule**

(If you should have any questions about this program,  
see Nancy Lloyd.)

January 1st: NO CW&W

January 8<sup>th</sup>: Storyteller: Nancy Lloyd;  
Greeter: Gwen Rose (Boy Jesus in the Temple - 22)

January 15<sup>th</sup>: Storyteller: Carrie Vincze  
Greeter: Sherrie Sommer (Jesus is Baptized - 23)

January 22<sup>nd</sup>: Storyteller: Suzanne Bowman  
Greeter: Judy Wyatt (Jesus in the Wilderness - 24)

January 29<sup>th</sup>: Storyteller: Dawn Lipscomb  
Greeter: Katherine Lipscomb (Parable of the Mustard  
Seed - 25)

February 5<sup>th</sup>: Storyteller and Greeter: Steve and Dianne  
Montgomery (Parable of the Sower - 28)

February 12<sup>th</sup>: Storyteller: Associate Minister Andy Rose  
Greeter: Crystal Clough (Parable of the Good Samaritan  
- 29)

February 19<sup>th</sup>: Storyteller: Nancy Lloyd  
Greeter: Gwen Rose (Jesus and the Children - 32 )

February 26<sup>th</sup>: Storyteller: Carrie Vincze  
Greeter: Sherrie Sommer (The Lenten Puzzle - 31)

## **Giving Online**

If you would like to give an online monetary  
donation to the church, you can give safely via  
Givelify @ <https://giv.li/w063gb>, or you can use  
the QR Code below. Just use your cell phone  
camera, hold it up to the barcode and it will take  
you straight to our Givelify account.



## **HGCC Social Media Platforms**



(Stay in touch with Church activities  
and get information you may need.)

Church Website is [www.hollygrovechristian.com](http://www.hollygrovechristian.com)

Instagram Page: Hgcc1873

Facebook Friend: "Holly Grove Christian Church"

(There are also two private Facebook pages. There is  
the "Holly Grove Christian Church Private Prayer &  
Study Group" for sharing prayer concerns, reflections,  
and other information that we may not wish to put out  
to the world on the regular Facebook page and there is  
the "HGCC Youth Connections" group that is geared  
towards keeping youth and parents of youth informed  
and connected.)

## **Email Distribution List**

If you would like to receive church emails during the week  
and are not on the email list, please give Cindy your  
information at [bccawilson@yahoo.com](mailto:bccawilson@yahoo.com) or call or text  
(804) 357-4412 and you will be added to the church email  
list.

**NEW YEAR,  
SAME FAITHFUL GOD!**

# January 2023

◀ December

February ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Happy New Year! Worship Services - 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Norman & Gwen Rose - Anniversary Randy & Norma Wilson - Anniversary	<b>2</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m. Garrett Goolsby - B John & Judy Wyatt - Anniversary	<b>3</b> Malin Boothe - B Harrison Hart - B	<b>4</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. CYF Study/Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	<b>5</b> Rebekah Cheely - B	<b>6</b> Amy Boothe - B Kathryn Lipscomb - B	<b>7</b> Dustin Mayo - B
<b>8</b> Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m. Sunday Supper - 6:00 p.m.	<b>9</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. CYF Study/Meeting - 6:30 p.m. Jason Snead - B	<b>12</b> Crafters' Mission Circle - 6:30 p.m.	<b>13</b> Randy Johnson - B	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m. Sunday Supper - 6:00 p.m. Dorian Longo - B Denver Spurlock - B	<b>16</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m. Pete Vincze - B	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. CYF Study/Meeting - 6:30 p.m. Willie Lloyd - B	<b>19</b> Bertie Clough - B	<b>20</b> Norman Rose - B	<b>21</b> Holly Bagby - B Steven Klein, Jr. - B
<b>22</b> Men's Breakfast/Gathering - 8:30 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m. Sunday Supper - 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting after the Worship Service	<b>23</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m. Emilia Wesselhoft - B	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. CYF Study/Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	<b>26</b> Crafters' Mission Circle - 6:30 p.m. Michelle Boothe - B Carolyn Richardson - B	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Pruners Food Pantry Open - 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Jenn Gernat - B Braelyn Knowles - B
<b>29</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m. Sunday Supper Meal Service - 6:00 p.m.	<b>30</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m. Erik Wesselhoft - B John Wyatt - B	<b>31</b>	<b>B - Birthday</b> <b>CYF - Christian Youth Fellowship</b>			

# February 2023

◀ January

March ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.  CYF Study/Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	<b>2</b> Doug Gernat - B	<b>3</b> Mary Allison Barnes - B Pam Hart - B	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m.  Sunday Supper - 6:00 p.m.  Liam Charles - B	<b>6</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.  Katherine Lipscomb - B	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.  CYF Study/Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	<b>9</b> Crafters' Mission Circle - 6:30 p.m.  Ashley Longo - B	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Lorrie Barnes - B
<b>12</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m.  Sunday Supper - 6:00 p.m.	<b>13</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.  Kevin and Lauren Jackson - Anniversary	<b>14</b> Vikki Bagby - B Marty Hart - B  Glen & Amanda Harper - Anniversary  <b>Valentine's Day</b>	<b>15</b> Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.  CYF Study/Meeting - 6:30 p.m.  Adaleigh Lipscomb - B	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> John & Shannon Kruep - Anniversary  Michael & Rachel Smith - Anniversary	<b>18</b> Nathan Harris - B Hunter Lipscomb - B
<b>19</b> Men's Breakfast/Gathering - 8:30 a.m.  Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m. (Missions will receive our Week of Compassion Offering)  Sunday Supper - 6:00 p.m.	<b>20</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Ash <b>Wednesday/Lent Begins</b>  Adult Bible Studies - 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.  CYF Study/Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	<b>23</b> Crafters' Mission Circle - 6:30 p.m.  Ashton Luciano - B	<b>24</b> Ruby Williams - B	<b>25</b> Pruners Food Pantry Open - 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.  Judy Wyatt - B  Peter & Carol Jean Smith - Anniversary
<b>26</b> Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. and CW&W Program - 10:45 a.m. (Last Day for Missions to receive our Week of Compassion Offering)  Sunday Supper Meal Service - 6:00 p.m.	<b>27</b> Ladies Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.  Elizabeth Crouch - B Katie Harper - B Luke Ward - B	<b>28</b> Kaylen Snead - B	<b>B - Birthday</b>  <b>CYF - Christian Youth Fellowship</b>			





## Andy's Corner



It's hard to believe that another new year is already on us, a new year we hope filled with new possibilities and adventures. One of the great things about the holiday season is it allows us the time and space, and entices us with its rich traditions, to reflect on the past. This reflection is often bittersweet as we remember times good and bad and loved ones who have already made the journey over the Jordan. As I sit down to write this article on the 27<sup>th</sup> of December, my memories are filled with my beloved nephew Monty who departed this life on this day 3 years past, and they are indeed bittersweet memories stitched together with a bond of love that transcends life and death, and I count myself blessed to have had such a person in my life to teach us more about this love than any number of books could ever hope to scratch at, in such people and situations we encounter Christ.

I also decided to read through some of the previous submissions I've made for this newsletter and many of the hopes and dreams expressed in those have come to fruition. The joyous sounds of many children have been filling the church, the building has been in use almost every day of the week with bible studies, youth group, choir practice, game nights, musicians practicing for Sunday worship, and so on. We now have two options for worship, one in the morning and another in the evening and then there is the big one, our dreams of a renovated and updated sanctuary has begun! While this renovation project has put us out of our building for a little while, and will come with a number of other challenges, I have no doubt that the end result will be beneficial to the continued vibrancy of our congregation for years to come. Yet, this continued vibrancy and growth of our beloved little church will require more than some drywall and mechanical upgrades, it will require every person offering their time and talents to the mission of Christ. So, let's pivot now, as in that famous Dickens Christmas story, from the Past and Present into the future.

You, yes you, are a part of the body of Christ...and for that body to be healthy everyone must do their part and employ their energies, time, talents, and occasionally a few coins to the community that we call Holly Grove Christian Church. Whether or not you have a title or position in the church, come every Sunday, or come just once a month, your input is valued and needed. In these times we need to be innovative in finding new ways to reach and uplift those around us through ministries and missions. We need to be open and welcoming to a diversity of people, thoughts, and perspectives. We need people who are passionate about things, about playing music, helping others, building, organizing, teaching, singing, and so on. I am encouraging the youth group this year to seek out and discern a need in the community and develop a ministry to address it, and I would encourage all you to do so as well, because the need is great beyond our safe and warm walls. I guess the simplest way I can express this request of you is to reword and paraphrase the famous quote by JFK, "Ask not what Jesus can do for you, but what you can do for Jesus."

In closing, and to return to an earlier point, there is more to being a Christian and follower of Jesus than attending church, if you want to truly encounter Christ and witness the grace of God then you have to get in the thick of it by going out of your comfort zone and helping those who so desperately need it and by being willing to sacrifice your time and energy for something much bigger than any one of us... and never stop dreaming!

Pastor Andy  
Cell Phone Number: 804-512-5153  
Email Address: [nrfarmshg@gmail.com](mailto:nrfarmshg@gmail.com)



## **Highlights from the November 9, 2022**

### **Board Meeting**

Chairman Dianne Montgomery called the bi-monthly Board meeting to order. There were 15 members present.

Rhonda Gorman presented the Treasurer's Report dated September 1, through October 31, 2022. There was \$108,661.56 in the checking account with \$6,253.33 in the Givelify Account which gave a total of \$114,914.89. Receipts totaled \$18,154.46 and disbursements totaled \$14,917.70. We had \$4,138.46 in Designated Funds which includes \$1,200 in the Samaritan Fund. The Church has \$179,380.35 in CD's. Report was accepted. Associate Pastor Andy Rose suggested moving funds from the Givelify account to the regular checking account. Rhonda will look into moving the funds and leave the minimum amount in the Givelify account.

Mary Anne Barlow presented the Cemetery Treasurer's Report dated September 29 through November 8, 2022. Current Principal Amount in CD (not to be used for upkeep) is \$26,935 with \$700 being held to place in a CD. The current amount in General Checking (to be used for general maintenance for the cemetery) is \$13,924.89. Report was accepted.

Dawn Lipscomb, Hospitality Chairman, reminded everyone of the Thanksgiving luncheon on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion to open up main dishes/meats to the congregation for future meals. Soup with Santa and the live Nativity was on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Jeff Clough, Property Chairman reported that the mulch for the playground had been picked up. Routine maintenance was performed the last two months. Jeff also advised the equipment approved at the last Board meeting was purchased, camera, laptop and control board. He and Andy will be working on getting it set up in the sanctuary.

Jane Harris advised our insurance will be increasing by \$1,528 for a new cost of \$3,837. She believes the increase is due to an increase in the property value. Rhonda will review the old and new policy to make sure they are consistent.

Cindy Wilson, Worship Chairman, stated the Worship Committee was getting ready for the Advent season.

UPDATE:

Advent season activities went well.

Planning for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration has begun, and the event is being scheduled for October 2023.

Associate Pastor Andy reported that the youth group is going great. They have been watching episodes of "*The Chosen*." They also had a visit from Jennifer Purcell (guidance counselor from LCMS). They were also involved with the food collection and Samaritan shoe boxes. They will purchase an alpaca, or other animal, through Heifer International to donate. Andy also mentioned the Sunday School classes were going well. Andy said the Sunday evening service would be starting and would last approximately 45 minutes.

A group of five musicians from the neighborhood has been assembled. As for District 10, the newsletter was out, and they plan to have a District assembly/meeting in January.

UPDATE:

The Sunday Supper is going well.

Pastor Bob Lane reported that he had attended the pro-reconciliation/anti-racism program in October which will be a requirement starting next year. There are currently two Bible study classes. The evening group will begin a new study on the Beatitudes when they resume in January.

Billy Lloyd thanked the committee for the time they put into the sanctuary renovation project. Three quotes were requested, but only two were received. Billy was told the job would take three to four

months. Lead time on the windows is about 18 weeks. The first bid was \$226,853 from Thomas Seaborn and Sons and the second bid was \$220,790.57 from Williams and Sons. There was discussion on the urgency of moving forward due to the lead time of the windows and the condition of the current heating system. It was decided by the Board to recommend to the members of the church to move forward with Williams & Sons. The recommendation would be announced for two weeks, and the members would vote on November 27<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion on how to pay for the renovations. Options were to pay cash, sell or mortgage the parsonage or to obtain a loan. The Board would have a special meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss further. There was also discussion on where to store pews/piano and how long we would be without the church.

The change to By-Laws was deferred until 2023.

It was decided that we would give \$500 to Bob and \$300 to Andy in prepaid Visa cards for Christmas.

Dianne adjourned the meeting with prayer.

### **Special Board Meeting - November 17, 2022**

This meeting was called to determine the method of payment for the church sanctuary renovation. Options were: 1) Sell the parsonage (keep all General Fund money and CDs), 2) Use cash on hand (some combination of the General Fund and CDs) 3) Get a partial loan to use in combination with the General Fund and/or CDs). By a vote of eight to six, the Board will recommend the sale of the parsonage as a means of funding the church renovation. The recommendation will be announced to the congregation and members will vote on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Members Vote - December 4, 2022**

After announcing for two weeks the Board's recommendation to sell the parsonage to pay for the renovation costs, the members voted by paper ballot. With a vote of 34 to 7, the members voted to sell the parsonage to cover the costs.

### **Special Board Meeting - December 7, 2022**

This meeting was called by Chairman Dianne Montgomery to discuss the next steps and she provided a notarized copy of the invoice for the renovations which had been signed by Billy Lloyd, Dianne Montgomery and the contractor. A down payment of \$83,790.57 was acknowledged on the invoice. Jane Harris presented a copy of the letter sent to the heirs of Edward and Agnes Moss notifying them of their first right to purchase the parsonage. The letter was mailed to the four heirs on December 6<sup>th</sup> and a response was requested by December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion of the sale price was discussed. Dianne stated Susan Anderson offered the Holly Grove Rescue Squad building to hold services while the renovations were underway, and we would begin services at the Rescue building on January 1<sup>st</sup>. After discussion, it was decided we will continue to hold Sunday School and CW&W there as well. Carolyn Bagby had received recommendations on the moving and storing of the piano and organ. Billy advised things will come up that were not covered in the original quote. He requested preapproval from the Board for these items himself in order to not delay the progress of the renovations. It was decided that Billy would have approval for changes up to \$5,000 per occurrence, not to exceed \$25,000 and he would notify the Board of each occurrence. Dianne stated the new mulch for the playground had been placed, but we are still in need of one more pallet of mulch at a cost of \$600. Motion was made and carried to purchase.

UPDATE:

The Church Sanctuary pews and other items have been cleared out and the piano and organ have been professionally moved and are stored at the Church. Worship Services began on January 1<sup>st</sup> at the Holly Grove Rescue Squad Building, and all went wonderful, and the sanctuary renovation has begun!

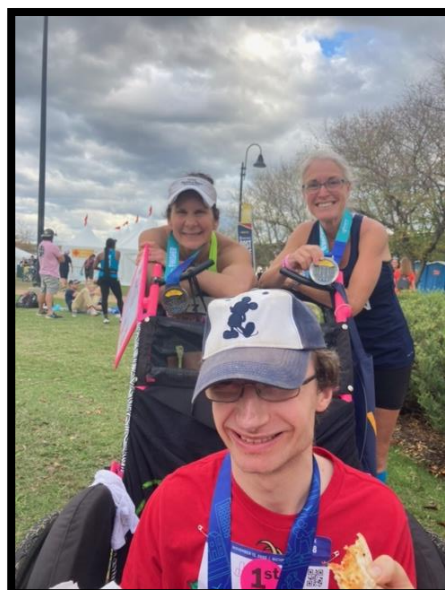
## *Recent Holly Grove Happenings*



VETERANS' DAY SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 6, 2022



Our Christian Youth Fellowship preparing Shoeboxes on November 13<sup>th</sup>  
for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Ministry



Kristy Trayer with friends after her Marathon Run  
for St. Jude Children's Hospital - Team raised \$10,000



A wonderful Fellowship Thanksgiving Lunch - November 20<sup>th</sup>



Holly Grove Crafters Items for the Louisa Santa Council Blessed  
(These were just a few of the 122 items made with love.)

♥♥ Let all that you do be done in love. ~ 1 Corinthians 16:14 ♥♥





Volunteers after spreading the new Mulch on the Playground - Great job!



The Live Nativity on December 11<sup>th</sup> with the wisemen, angels, shepherds, Gingersnap the goat and special thanks to the Wesselhoft Family for being our Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus!

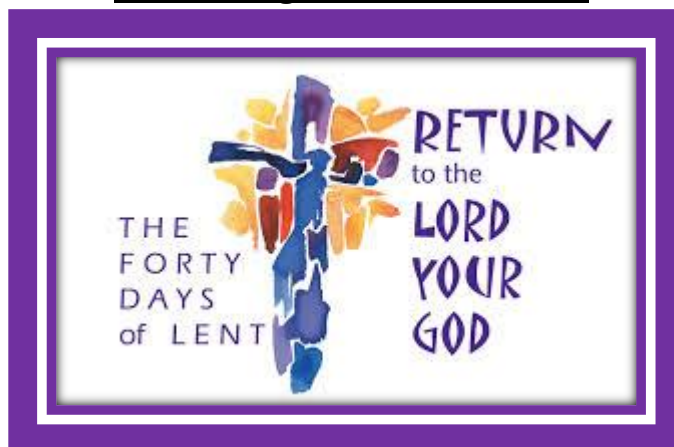


Santa enjoyed talking with Lane Wilson at the "Soup with Santa" Event



Bill Baxter took great care of the keyboard while being moved from the Church to the Rescue Bldg. for the renovation

## Something to Think About



Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. In our Christian religion during the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites itself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert and in spiritual preparation for the celebration of His Passion, Death and Resurrection. This is a time to make a special point of self-examination, of considering what wrongs we need to repent and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth we especially need to ask God's help in dealing with. It is an incredibly special time for Christians to reflect on Jesus Christ and **ALL** He has done for us. Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. So, what will you do this Lenten season as we journey towards the Cross?

### **John 3:16 says:**

For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

## **Tomato Tortellini with Sausage Soup in the Slow Cooker (Yield: 8 people)**

(Many have asked that this soup recipe be shared. So here it is, from Cindy Wilson's kitchen.)

### **Ingredients:**

- 1 lb. Italian sausage or you can use regular sausage
- 1 (32-oz) container chicken broth
- 1 (28-oz) can petite diced tomatoes
- 2 (10.5-oz) cans tomato soup
- 2 (8-oz) containers chive and onion cream cheese spread, softened
- 1 (18-oz) package frozen cheese tortellini, uncooked

### **Instructions:**

1. In a skillet, cook the sausage (mash it up) until browned and no longer pink. Transfer cooked sausage to slow cooker/crockpot.
2. Add chicken broth, tomatoes and tomato soup to slow cooker/crockpot. Cover and cook on LOW 6 to 8 hours.
3. Stir in cream cheese and cheese tortellini. Cover and cook on HIGH for 15 to 30 minutes, until tortellini is cooked.

**ENJOY ON A CHILLY DAY!**