



# News From Holland

Newsletter of Holland First United Methodist Church

October 2005

Rev. Chris Hughes, Pastor

Volume X

Web Site: [www.hollandum.org](http://www.hollandum.org)

## Chris' Corner

### Open Hearts

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to **love one another**; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. <sup>11</sup>Besides this, **you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep.** For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far-gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. **Romans 13:8-14**

When I was growing up, the band, **Chicago** had a song asking, "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?" That is the question **Paul** is asking the 1<sup>st</sup> century Christians, as he writes to the church in Rome. He is telling them it is time to wake up and realize the time when they will enter into eternity is closer than it was when they became believers. "**Wake Up!**" He shouts! "Rework the way you live your life. Don't owe anything to anybody, except to remember that we owe others love."

As we continue to face the aftermath of hurricanes, Paul's words are ringing out to us: "**Wake Up!** Rework the way you live your life. Don't owe anything to anybody, except to remember that we owe others love."

Around each of us are people who are hurting in their own isolation. Perhaps they know someone who lost their home, or their livelihood, or even their life. Perhaps they have been overwhelmed by the images of the hurricane on the TV, or perhaps they are overwhelmed by the circumstances of their own lives.

In American society, we often **face our fears** through the *refraction of an empty beer bottle*, or the *shadow of other self-centered behavior*. But now is **no time for self-centeredness**. We can **reach out to our neighbors** in love. **Now is moment! This is the place!**

**Elsewhere in this month's newsletter** is information on how you can help in the relief effort. Perhaps you can make another health kit, or a flood bucket. Perhaps you can drive a truck, or volunteer at a shelter.

**People around need encouragement** to draw closer to God. You see them walking in the evening past your home, You bump carts with them in the grocery store aisles. You see them as you wait in the doctor's office. Take a moment this week to **invite someone to church**. Someone near to you needs to **hear God's words of love**.

Chris Hughes, Pastor

### OCTOBER WORSHIP SERVICES

#### Bible Readings & Message Titles

Date	Scripture	Sermon	Presenter
Oct. 2 <b>Communion Day</b>	<i>Matthew 21:33-46</i>	" <b>Renter Mentality</b> "	Chris Hughes
Oct. 9	<i>Matthew 22:1-14, Colossians 3:12-14</i>	" <b>Dress Code</b> "	Chris Hughes
Oct. 16	<i>Matthew 22:15-22</i>	" <b>Mint Error</b> "	Chris Hughes
Oct. 23	<i>Deuteronomy 34:1-12</i>	" <b>Eyes of Vision &amp; Hands of Blessing</b> "	Dan Rocha
Oct. 30	<i>Matthew 23:1-12; Philippians 2:5-11</i>	" <b>How Low Can You Go?</b> "	Chris Hughes

## Administrative Council

Often we go about our daily lives taking care of “stuff”. Sometimes the “stuff” is important: work deadlines, job requirements, laundry piles, family obligations, etc. Sometimes the “stuff” is not important: petty feuds and daily drama at work and home, the continual competition with the Jones, etc. One thing we should have learned in the wake of the devastation of Katrina and the evacuation caused by Rita is that we as a people and a nation need to value and treasure the important “stuff” and get rid of the rest of the junk that overwhelms our daily cares. Life is precious. Tell the people that you love, “I love you” out loud and today. Call someone and apologize. Call an old friend and catch up. Forgive and Forget. Laugh. Volunteer. Look deeply into the eyes of the people you work with and live with and listen. Smile at your neighbor. In the end, when the wind blows, the rain falls, and the water rises, what will you really value? Think on those things when you have lost your patience and you have wasted all of your niceness on your fellow workers, and your child, spouse, parent is stretching your ability to kind. Take a deep breath and evaluate your situation...if it is not important let it go. Life is fleeting..... A person the other day began his prayer like this “Father God, thank you for this day not guaranteed...” That phrase startled me because it is so true. I encourage each one of you to remember that phrase and hold it close in your memory when your “stuff” gets out of hand.

Mike and Melany

## Prayer Circle

PRAYER CIRCLE will meet October 19th at 6:00 P.M. while the WWC meet to work on the quilts. Come and bring your prayers and if you are so talented, quilt awhile. Everyone is welcome.

## Judy's News

**LUNCHEON:** Luncheon will be on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, at 11:30 P.M. at Dynasty. Come and join the food and fellowship.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS:** Our class has gotten off to a great start. We meet right after church and the class lasts approximately 30-45 minutes. We hope to see you there. We are NEVER TOO OLD to learn more about God.

**COWBOY CHURCH:** I was asked to come to the Heights Baptist Church on Thursday, the 15th to talk about Cowboy Church. After I gave my informative talk, the floor was open for discussion and questions. The questions flew and discussion continued for another half hour. I was blessed as they were. In fact our entertainment (music) for the November Cowboy Church will be provided by members of the church. Several others are planning to attend. I am very excited about this.

The dates have been set for fall/winter. Mark your calendars: October 23rd, November 20th, and December 18th. Get the word out!!!!

## UMW News

UMW will meet Sept. 28th at Ruth Beasley's at 1:00 P.M. Judy will be bringing the program. October's meeting will be a trip to Breckenridge.

### Attendance and Offering

Date	Attendance	Offering
8/28/95	40	\$492.00
9/4/05	27	\$600.00
9/11/05	43	\$360.00
9/18/05	33	\$247.00

### Upcoming Events

September  
25<sup>th</sup>



UMW @ R Beasley @ 2:00 pm

October  
8<sup>th</sup>



Bake Sale @ 7:30 am

19<sup>th</sup>

Luncheon @ Dynasty in Temple @ 11:30 am

19<sup>th</sup>

Women's Prayer Circle @ 6:00 pm w/WWC

23<sup>rd</sup>

Cowboy Church @ 5:00 pm

November  
20<sup>th</sup>



Cowboy Church @ 5:00 pm

December  
18<sup>th</sup>



Cowboy Church @ 5:00 pm