

Mission & Outreach

On **March 15 from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm**, Bright Side Baptist Church and Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay invite you to an inspiring lecture by New York Times bestselling author and University of Delaware researcher Doug Tallamy (who has previously spoken at Highland). Tallamy will discuss simple steps that each of us can - and must - take to reverse declining biodiversity, why we must change our adversarial relationship with nature to a collaborative one, and **why we are nature's best hope**. For more information visit <https://www.allianceforthebay.org/event/doug-tallamy-natures-best-hope/>.

As we look with hope toward the warmer days of Spring, **Highland's Earth Care Committee invites you to join with our local partner, Lancaster Conservancy**, for one of their many outdoor opportunities. Throughout the month of March, the Conservancy will be hosting outdoor hikes, workdays, and educational opportunities. For more information, visit the Conservancy's website at <https://www.lancasterconservancy.org/events/>. Here is a sampling of some of their opportunities:

Educational Opportunities

February 26, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Discovering Our Spring Ephemeral Wildflowers
March 15 and March 23, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm – Amphibians and Vernal Pools: Love is in the Water
March 16, 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm – Phenology for Springtime
March 22, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm – Leave No Trace Workshop
March 22, 9:00 am – 11:00 am – All About Birds: Birding for Beginners

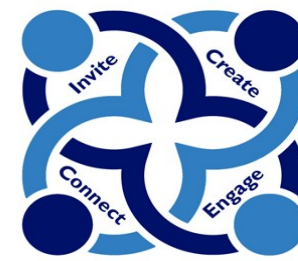
Exploration Hikes:

March 5, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm – Rannels Kettle Run Nature Preserve
March 8, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm – Wizard Ranch Nature Preserve
March 26, 9:00 am – 11:00 am – Falmouth Forest Garden at Conoy Wetlands Nature Preserve
March 26, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm – Texter Mountain Nature Preserve
March 29, 10:00 am and 1:00 pm – Shenks Ferry Wildflower Preserve

Volunteer Workdays:

March 8, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm – Wizard Ranch Nature Preserve
March 15, 9:00 am – 11:00 am – Donegal Highlands Nature Preserve
March 23, 9:00 am – 11:00 am – Clark Nature Preserve

YWCA Race Against Racism April 26, 2025 ~ Please join Highland's **Matthew 25 Committee** by participating in the nation's biggest and longest consecutively run **Race Against Racism!** The Lancaster YWCA's 27th RAR is on **Saturday, April 26th** at Musser Park in Lancaster City. You can run, walk, or stand along the 5K course to cheer on our Highland team racers! Plenty of food, music, and activities throughout the event which starts at 8:30 am with a Kids Fun Run. To participate, please register online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Lancaster/YWCA/LancasterRaceAgainstRacism>. Click on the **Groups** tab at the top, then enter **Highland Presbyterian Church – Mt 25**. The cost is: \$6.94 for the Kids Fun Run; \$14.41 for racers ages 14 & under; and \$38.96 for racers 15 & up. (Scholarships are available for low-income and marginalized children.) All 5K participants who register by April 6th will receive a free RAR t-shirt. There is a price increase for registration after that date. Lynn Dawson, the Team Administrator, will pick up the teams' t-shirts and racing bibs which will then be available at the church office on Thursday and Friday before the race. For more information, or if you have questions, please feel free to contact Lynn Dawson.



The Highland Heartbeat

Highland, a Place to be Seen, Known, and Loved

Volume 131, Issue 4

February 23, 2025

Lenten Sermon Series: Short Stories by Jesus

Jesus was a skilled storyteller. He used images and metaphors from everyday life to capture the hearts and minds of his followers. This technique made his messages both accessible and relevant. In this sermon series, we're going to explore how Jesus' original audience heard his parables and we're also going to explore how contemporary Christians hear and interpret those parables today. To do this, we will get help from Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School, Amy Jill Levine. Her book, **Short Stories by Jesus** will be referenced throughout the sermon series and small groups will be formed to go through her engaging and fascinating study that places these parables in their historical context. The goal of this sermon series is to hear the challenge in these parables anew.

"Too often we settle for easy interpretations," Levine writes "and if we stop with the easy lessons, good though they may be, we lose the way Jesus' first followers would have heard the parables, and we lose the genius of Jesus' teaching. We might be better off thinking less about what they **"mean"** and more about what they can **"do"**: remind, provoke, refine, confront, disturb..." I'm excited to dig into this series. I hope you are as well.

See you on the Lord's Day! **Pastor Allison**

In coordination with our Lenten sermon series, we will be offering small groups for folks to further engage in this topic. Each small group will be facilitated by a volunteer. They will meet for about an hour once a week for five weeks at a consistent time and location. Participants are encouraged to read the book, *Short Stories by Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine. Books can be purchased beginning today in the Narthex for \$10, or online. **Starting today you can sign up for a small group.** Groups will begin in the week following Sunday, March 9, and continue for five consecutive weeks. No matter how many sessions you can attend, we encourage you to get involved! Join us as we explore this important topic together!



Lenten Schedule at Highland

1pm-2pm, March 5th- Imposition of Ashes in the Chapel (Drop in anytime between 1pm-2pm for ashes)

7pm, March 5th- Ash Wednesday service (Sanctuary)

10am, March 9th- Lent Week #1 Lost Coin/Son/Sheep

10am, March 16th- Lent Week #2 Yeast and Mustard Seed

10am, March 23rd- Lent Week #3 The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

10am, March 30th- Lent Week #4 The Laborers in the Vineyard

10am, April 6th- Lent Week #5 The Rich Man and Lazarus

10am, April 13th- Lent Week #6 Palm Sunday

5:45pm, April 17th- Maundy Thursday Worship Experience and Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

7pm, April 18th- Good Friday service (Sanctuary)

6am, April 20th- Sunrise Easter Service (Narthex)

10am, April 20th- Easter Sunday service in the sanctuary

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE: Luke 6:27-38 niv
Sermon ~ "Leveling the Playing Field"

Pastor Allison
Next week ~ Pastor Allison



Worship Times

Ignite Worship | 9:30AM
Traditional Worship | 10AM

Program Staff

Senior Pastor—Rev. Allison Beaulieu
Pastor for Congregational Care—Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne
Associate Pastor for Missions & Discipleship—Rev. Matt Drumheller
Parish Associate— Rev. Dr. Bob Burns
Parish Associate—Rev. Ken Osborne
Music Director—Dr. Paul Thorlakson
Organist—Jonathan Lefever
Director of Youth Ministries—Sarah Hostetter
Director of Children & Family Ministries—Jennifer Weitzel.

Office Hours

Mon - Thurs | 9AM - 3:30 PM
Friday | 9:00AM - 12PM

Contact Information

Phone | 717-569-2651
www.HighlandPC.org
500 E. Roseville Road
Lancaster, PA 17601

PRAYER LIST

PASTOR ON CALL - Pastor Allison Feb. 24 ~ March 2

In Memory

Family of Kenneth Aument
Family of Mary Dutka
Family of Barbara Holran

Family of Dot Bisalski
Family of Marge Herrmann

If you or a family member are in the hospital and would like a visit from a pastor or hospital visitor please contact the church office.

In Prayer

Judy Berg
David Dagen
Faye Gemmill
Richard Hankel
Luther Heiser
Shirley Offermann
John Wylie
Eric (son-in-law of Jean Fontes)
Elizabeth Devitry (grand-daughter of Jack Sapper)
Lewis Fitzgerald (father of Carolyn Danaker)

Marge Carpenter
Sandy Cross
Linda Guimond
Gretchen Laubach
Martha Matt
Megan Stock
Stacy Self & her family



VIEWING OF ONLINE SERVICES

Go to www.youtube.com

- In the YouTube search bar, type "Highland Presbyterian Church"
- You should see a picture of Highland at the top of the search results; click it.
- Here, you will find all of our weekly services by date.
- Worship services are livestreamed at 10 am on Sunday mornings.

GIVING

- Mail your contributions to the church office.
- Go to our www.highlandpc.org and select the "Give Now" button in the upper right-hand corner.
- It will walk you through how to give using your credit or debit card.
- Scan the QR code and it will take you to the online giving on our website.
- If you have general questions, please contact the church office at 717-569-2651.



Meeting of the Corporation ~ Will be held today following the 10 am worship service.

Easter Egg Hunt @ Highland ~ We're looking for a few good eggs! Highland's annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 6th is rapidly approaching! We're aiming for 1,500 filled eggs for our fabulous children to find.



So hop to it and pick up a bag (or two!) of 24 eggs from the bins in the narthex, fill them up, and bring them back to the church by March 23rd. All candy items should be packaged or individually wrapped (please, NO loose jellybeans!). Non-candy items are appreciated and encouraged. Questions? Please contact Evelyn Lisi. The Easter Bunny thanks you!

Join the book group on Wednesday, February 26 at 1 p.m. in Room 208. The book to be discussed is "Miss Morgan's Book Brigade" by Janet Skeslien Charles. Based on real events, the story is of a young American woman who helps rebuild devastated French communities at the close of World War I. Her contribution is the creating of children's libraries. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion. Call the office for more information.

DRS Concert: Silent Film with Organist Don Kinnier ~ Join us on **Wednesday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m.** to see a movie



the way your grandparents did! What would a silent film be without an organist? Don't miss Charlie Chaplin's first full-length film *The Kid* (1921) with Don Kinnier at the keyboard. Don's programs are easygoing and fun – but seriously, he's a church organist in Ephrata and holiday organist at Longwood Gardens. In this concert, he'll "play along" as a lovable tramp (Chaplin) raises an orphan, loses him to circumstance, and gets him back through a mother's love. Join your friends at Highland for an uplifting and cry-worthy tale illustrated in music.



Using a QCD (What's That? Answer Below) to Give to Highland ~ Anyone who has an IRA, 401(k), or similar retirement plan and who has attained the age of 70^{1/2} is eligible to contribute to a charity, such as HPC, from that plan through what the Internal Revenue Code calls a Qualified Charitable Distribution (a "QCD"). A taxpayer cannot *deduct* such a contribution as an itemized deduction, but can *exclude* the contribution from taxable income. (This is especially useful for those over 73 who must take minimum distributions, otherwise taxable, from retirement plans.) During 2025 most taxpayers can exclude up to \$108,000 in retirement plan QCD's from their taxable income.

Most plan administrators make it easy to take QCD's through their websites, and many HPC members fulfill their pledges in this way. Those with more complicated tax situations may need to consult an advisor.

Senior Fellowship Breakfast – Join us **Thursday, March 6** at Oregon Dairy starting at **9 am** for a time of sharing and caring while we eat! We meet in a small room off the main dining area set aside for us. Breakfast is pay for what you order and comes with a free donut and glass of milk. Get to know your fellow mature HPC members better. Bring stories to tell and concerns to share. Please contact the church office with any questions.



"JOY" just older Youth Senior Ministry **SPRING GATHERING Thursday, March 20th ~ 11 am** lunch in Fellowship Hall. Followed by a movie Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium. Sign up in the Narthex starting next Sunday, March 2.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is working hard to respond to two devastating ecological disasters. Our neighbors have been suffering. In recent months, members of Highland have responded by offering funds to support the denominational effort. The generosity of this congregation has been astounding. When there is a need, members of Highland follow Jesus' call to act. **Our congregation has raised \$7,975.00 to support wildfire relief in California and \$10,390.00 to support hurricane relief in the Southeastern United States.** These numbers are overwhelming, and words fall short of expressing thanks for your generosity. We continue to pray for those in California and in the Southeast affected by these disasters.

