



The Highland Heartbeat

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

Volume 132, Issue 2

March 9, 2025

Our Lenten Journey

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. 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. We will also have book summaries available for those who would like to participate but do not have time to read the whole book. Groups will begin in the week following Sunday, March 9 and continue for five consecutive weeks. You can sign up for a small group in the Narthex, or by going to <https://forms.gle/wPd5s2JBxXr1daHq8>. No matter how many sessions you can attend, we encourage you to get involved!



Worship with us!

- March 9th ~ Lent Week #1 ~ 10am, Lost Coin/Son/Sheep
- March 16th - Lent Week #2 ~ 10 am, The Good Samaritan
- March 23rd ~ Lent Week #3 ~ 10 am, The Pearl of Great Price
- March 30th ~ Lent Week #4 ~ 10am, The Mustard Seed
- April 6th ~ Lent Week #5 ~ 10am, The Laborers in the Vineyard
- April 13th - Palm Sunday ~ 10 am.
- April 17th ~ Maundy Thursday ~ 5:45pm, light supper & Inter-generational Worship Experience (Fellowship Hall)
- April 18th ~ 7pm, Good Friday service (Sanctuary)
- April 20th ~ 6am. Sunrise Easter Service with Communion (Narthex)

April 20th ~ 9:30 am. ~ Ignite

April 20th ~ 10am. Easter Sunday service in the Sanctuary

Don't forget to join a small group to read Amy Jill Levine's **Short Stories by Jesus!*

WORSHIP | March 9, 2025

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE: Luke 15:1-7

Sermon ~ *The Parable of the Shepherd Who Lost His Sheep*

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 - 3:30 PM

Contact Information

Phone | 717-569-2651

www.HighlandPC.org

500 E. Roseville Road

Lancaster, PA 17601

PRAYER LIST

PASTOR ON CALL - Rev. Dr. Robert Burns March 10 ~ March 16

In Memory

Family of Dot Bisalski
Family of Barbara Holran

Family of Marge Herrmann
Family of John Wylie

In Prayer

Judy Berg
David Dagen
Faye Gemmill
Richard Hankel
Luther Heiser
Shirley Offermann
Stacy Self & her family
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
John Ray (father of Trixi Ray)
Megan Stock

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.



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.



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 easy-going and fun. 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.



Say Farewell to the Weitzel Family Jennifer Weitzel's last Sunday with us will be March 30th. As we announced, Jenn will be moving to England and working at Cliff College. We will be having a reception for the family after worship in the narthex that day. We are also accepting donations for a purse for Jenn, which will be a sum of money offered to her as a thank-you for her ministry among us. You can submit checks to Highland Presbyterian Church with "Jennifer Weitzel's purse" in the memo line. Please have those donations to the church office by March 24th.

The Matthew 25 Committee invites you to join us after worship in Fellowship Hall on March 23 for an intergenerational time of letter-writing to support Sahar's family. In 2021, Highland Presbyterian Church worked with Church World Services to resettle Sahar Mehryar from Afghanistan to the United States. Since August, our church – in cooperation with Welcome Corps, a program of the U.S. State Department – has raised money and volunteered our time and effort to help Sahar reunite with her family, who have fled to Pakistan. Recent restructuring decisions made by the federal government have delayed the immigration process for Sahar's family and many like them. The Matthew 25 Committee is inviting you to participate in advocacy support for the Mehryar family by writing to our Pennsylvania elected officials to encourage them to help in whatever way they can. There will be coloring for young folks and postcard writing for adults.

On **Saturday, March 22 from 9:00 am until 12:30 pm**, the Nurturing Spiritual Growth Committee will gather to have extended conversation regarding the Discipleship portion of our church's strategic plan! Congregation members who are interested in the spiritual growth and discipleship of our congregation are invited to join us. We will be discerning how our church helps people experience and know the transforming power of Jesus Christ! To RSVP for this mini-retreat, please use this link: <https://forms.gle/QH1E5xKDPT6pE9W86> or the QR code.



"JOY" just older Youth Senior Ministry **SPRING GATHERING Thursday, March 20th ~ 11 am** lunch in Fellowship Hall, and a movie, "Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium." Starring Dustin Hoffman and Natalie Portman. Sign up in the Narthex today at the table draped in yellow!

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!



Easter Tulips ~ Did you know tulips symbolize passion, belief, and love in our Christian faith? White tulips represent forgiveness and purple tulips represent royalty. Sound familiar to anyone? One of the Deacons' many ministries is to provide you with the opportunity to order beautiful tulips. These tulips can be purchased and then donated for delivery to someone who is homebound, grieving, or ill. You can also order a tulip in memory of, in honor of a loved one or you can order one for your personal enjoyment. When you purchase a tulip in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one, their names will be printed in the bulletin. Tulips will decorate the Sanctuary for Easter (Sunday, April 20). Stop by the Deacon table in the Narthex the following Sundays either before or after the service:

MARCH 9 – MARCH 16 – MARCH 23 – MARCH 30. Tulips are \$8 each. If you have any questions, please contact Trixi Ray or call the church office.



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/>.

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

- 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 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 15, 9:00 am – 11:00 am – Donegal Highlands Nature Preserve
- March 23, 9:00 am – 11:00 am – Clark Nature Preserve



Registrations for our summer mission trips! Our Intergenerational Mission Trip is partnering with TEAM effort in Altoona, PA to work on home rehabilitation from **July 13 to July 18**. This trip is a highlight of our hands-on mission programming every year. We will travel to Altoona on Sunday and work until Friday morning (there is a shortened option available from Sunday evening through Wednesday morning). Group participants will have an opportunity to positively impact the lives of our neighbors. You can register today for yourself or your family using the QR code.



Pictures from the recent Youth Lock In

