



the highland HEARTBEAT

August 20, 2023



CONNECTING YOU
WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY

Pastor Allison Marks Her One-Year Anniversary at Highland

Last week, I preached a sermon that marked my one year anniversary with Highland. I talked about what it means to be a *multi-layered leader*. Those layers include: an organizational leader, a shepherd leader, and a gardener leader. The organizational leader pays attention to systems and processes. The shepherd leader focuses on relationships and caring for the flock. And the gardener leader makes sure the beloved community is grounded in the narrative of hope, the Word of God. The gardener makes sure the environment is right for God to produce growth. Reflecting on this last year, as an organizational leader, I've come alongside you to accomplish the following:

- We began Ignite, our extended worship time that features the many talents of our praise band. This process included leading the staff through a period of discernment, hosting listening sessions to create something that was wanted and needed by church members, and hiring Jeff Martin to be our Ignite worship leader.
- We updated all job descriptions and completed staff performance reviews, using a brand new evaluation process.
- We initiated a new evaluation process for our installed pastors using the "coaching and equipping" model designed by the Presbytery of Donegal.
- We initiated a strategic planning process which included a time of discernment to decide on a strategic planning consultant, the formation of a strategic planning team (the GPS), and the launch of "40 days of prayer" to begin this process on a solid foundation of prayer and the Word.
- We created a new format for staff meetings that includes a time of learning, team building, and sharing "God sightings" or moments where we saw God at work at Highland.
- We re-structured the session assignments so that every committee has a session liaison to increase communication.

As a shepherd leader, I have met so many of you as I made my way through most of the nursing homes and assisted living centers in the area. Every Monday morning, I visit our homebound members or online worshippers, making connections with them and bringing them greetings from Highland. I have walked with some of you in planning funerals for your loved ones and getting your children baptized (my favorite!). I've met you in fellowship events and Bible studies, picnics and hospital rooms. I've also met most of our mission partners in the city, often taking tours of facilities and meeting staff that work there. One of my goals this coming year is to continue establishing relationships with Highland members as well as our mission partners. And finally, as a gardener leader, I hope and I pray that I have preached sermons that matter—sermons that inspire—and sermons that lead you closer to the Lord. I pray that God continues to give me the right words to say to make meaning in this season of Highland's life and to situate us in a narrative of hope. Thank you, Highland, for trusting my leadership and walking alongside me the way that I have promised to walk alongside you. I'm excited for the future and eager to see where God leads us next! *Pastor Allison*

WORSHIP SERVICE

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE: Matthew 15:21-28

SERMON: "Finding Faith Way Over There"



HOW TO VIEW OUR ONLINE SERVICES

- Visit our website for the current week's service at www.highlandpc.org
- Worship services are livestreamed at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings so you can watch it as it happens.
- Visit our Youtube Channel at www.youtube.com/c/highlandpresbyterian for access to all of our past services and events

PREACHING/WORSHIP CALENDAR

8/27 Pastor Allison preaching
9/03 Pastor Allison preaching
9/10 Pastor Allison preaching
9/17 Pastor Allison preaching
9/24 Pastor Allison preaching
10/1 Pastor Allison preaching
10/8 Pastor Allison preaching

PRAYER LIST

In Memory

Family of Zitella (Zit) Buzby
Family of Lewis Hershey
Family of Harriett Weaver

In Prayer

Julie Bender
Jane Boris (sister of Carla Rothacker)
Robert Coup
Bill & Claudia Dyson (Friends of Lee Heisey)
Marilyn Frandsen
Ryan Ginn
Kathy Groves
Linda Guimond
Carl Henkel
Diane Hostetter (Mitchell)
Joan Lewis
Carolyn McGuigan

Beverly Moore
Heather Sievers
Dorie Steinman
The people of Northwest & Southwest Cameroon

PASTOR ON CALL

August 21 ~ August 27

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne



Names found on the Heartbeat prayer list will remain on the list for 30 days. If you would like the name to be included after 30 days, please contact the church office to re-add them. To request a name to be added to the Prayer List, kindly first obtain permission from the individual then call the church office to have them added.

Announcements & Updates

Ignite Returns on Sept. 10th! Ignite, which is a time of extended worship with our praise band, starts back up on Sunday, Sept. 10th at 9:30am in Fellowship Hall. Due to high demand, Ignite will be EVERY SUNDAY at 9:30am in fellowship hall, except the Sunday after Thanksgiving and Christmas. We are so excited to hear more from our talented praise band and Ignite worship leader, Jeff Martin. Come join us any Sunday for inspiration and praise at IGNITE!



Fall Small Groups ~ Small Groups forming! Sign up today in the Narthex and purchase your book.

Sundays after Church:

Leslie Aikens and a co-facilitator (to be determined) meeting in the Prayer Room ~ Max Lucado

Connie Towers, Barb Droz, Daniel & Emma Denae Droz meeting in room 208 ~ Interpretation & N.T. Wright

Monday or Wednesday evening (depends on when choir meets) Connie & Bob Hoelscher at Warwick Woodlands ~ N.T. Wright

Friday afternoons at 1:30 at Willow Valley South ~ Betty Price and a co-facilitator (to be determined) ~ N.T. Wright

Friday afternoons at 1:30 via Zoom ~ Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne, Joycelyn Pyett & Mary Kay Hymes ~ John Stott

More small groups may be offered based upon today's sign-ups.

Gym Jam We are excited to start our 11th year of Gym Jam this fall! We are looking for a few volunteers Wednesdays from 9:15-10:45 to help set up the gym, greet guests, engage with the families and help with snacks. The season runs from September 13th to March 27th. Gym Jam is an open gym space for kids 0-5 and their parent/guardian. We set up a bounce house, slide, scooters, bikes, tunnels, etc. If interested, please contact the church office or Mindy Witmer directly.

Church Directory Did you know that there is a church directory that can be accessed two ways? Online on the HighlandPC.org website and on a smartphone using the Church Life app.

For Website Access: New Users If you have never registered on the church website, go to www.HighlandPC.org. Scroll to the bottom left of any page, click on CREATE NEW ACCOUNT and register using your email address and then create a password. Your email address is your USERNAME.

Sign in and check the accuracy of your information and by selecting "I want to view MY COMPLETE PROFILE".

Existing Users If you have logged in before: Go to Highland's website: www.HighlandPC.org. Scroll to the bottom left of any page, click on MEMBER LOGIN and sign in. After signing in, you now have access to the church directory by using the search box on the right side of the page to access the PHOTO DIRECTORY.

For Smartphone Access:

To access the photo directory from your smartphone, you will need to download the Church Life app:

Click on App Store icon on your phone. Search for "ACS Church Life" app and download it. The first time you use the Church Life app it will ask you to enter your email address and password that you have set up on Highland's website. Enter your information and SIGN IN. Once signed in, you can stay signed in. If you need help editing your information or uploading a photo, go to the WELCOME Page on the church website and scroll down to CHURCH DIRECTORY or by contacting Mike Nolt, our website administrator. Blue papers with instructions can be found on the Kiosk or at The Welcome Center.

Free Mulch is available near the circle in the Memorial Garden area. Help yourself.

The Children's Ministry at Highland is growing!

Help us keep pace with this growth by occasionally volunteering to help on Sunday mornings. Currently, we are serving children in these age groups: nursery (infants to 3 years), PreK - 1st grade, 2nd - 4th grade, and 5th grade & above. What is involved, you ask? Here are the key components of a Sunday morning helper with children:



1. Submit your SafeChurch clearances (once every five years & free to everyone),
2. Join us for a team huddle on the morning you are scheduled to help,
3. Play, interact, guide, and build relationships with the children during the Sunday service, and Support other volunteers in the classroom.

A larger pool of volunteers equips us to share the load of our growing ministries. Grab a hard copy of the Fall Volunteer Availability Form today or sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/hpckidsfall2023>. **Submit your form TODAY.** (We also have volunteer openings for August.) See Jennifer Weitzel or email her at jenniferweitzel@highlandpc.org for more information.

Children and Youth Volunteers Training

If you're planning to assist with any children and/or youth related activities in the 2023-2024 school year, please plan to attend ONE of the two upcoming orientations:

TODAY after service, 11:15 am - 12:15 pm, Youth Room

Monday, August 21st, 7:30 - 8:30 pm, Zoom

We will discuss upcoming events, roles of volunteers, safety measures, and more as it relates to children and youth at Highland. See Jennifer Weitzel or Will Massey for more information and to RSVP.

Invitation to the Confirmation Cohort Highland's 9th and 10th grade students are invited to participate in the next confirmation cohort! Older youth who were not previously confirmed as Highland members may also join. Confirmation encourages students to remember the promises that were made in their baptism, reflect on what God is doing in their lives, and express what it means for them to be disciples of Jesus. At the conclusion of the class, students may write a statement of faith and become members of Highland. This is a time of reflection and affirmation for Highland's young people, as they are invited to participate even more fully in the fellowship of God's church. Meeting times for the cohort are TBA, because we hope to find dates and times that will work for all participants over the course of this school year. Teachers will include Pastor Allison, Pastor Ann, and Will Massey. Please contact Will Massey by Friday, September 1 if your student would like to be invited to join the confirmation cohort! After that date you will be invited to an introductory meeting



Support Youth Ministry: Volunteers and Meals Youth Group kicks off on August 27, and once again we will need two types of contributions:

- Youth Group volunteers (adults with Child Protection Clearances who also attend orientation)
- Sunday Dinners

You can start signing up today for Sunday Youth Gatherings from now through December. Contributing in either way makes a big difference for our youth as they build relationships and explore their faith in a non-judgmental environment. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c4faea72cabfb6-youth1#/>

Rally Day will be held following Worship on **Sunday, August 27th**. Plan to join us for food, fun and fellowship. The Corsair Jazz Orchestra will be performing, there will be face painting for children and our Hospitality Committee will be serving lunch. A sign-up table for Mission & Ministry opportunities will also be available.

