

the highland HEARTBEAT

October 22, 2023



CONNECTING YOU
WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY

GPS ~ 2nd congregational conversation ~ The Present



The second congregational conversation convened with over 200 people participating! The morning began with lovely Ignite and Traditional services. The praise band, chancel choir, and bell choir performances had everyone smiling, clapping, and praising God for the beautiful melodies.

Members enjoyed an inspiring message on Acts 5 by Rev. Bill Owen, our consultant from the Center for Healthy Churches. The book of Acts is filled with engaging stories, ranging from earthquakes to murders to courtroom drama! These stories, similar to what we are experiencing in the 21st Century, are narratives from the early Christian church.

In the message, Bill asked us to ponder three things as a church: 1) the Spirit's presence, 2) posture of joy, and 3) continuum of transformation. He asked thought-provoking questions about how our stories — from the pulpit, from the pews, from our neighborhoods, and from our hearts — shape who we are and what God is calling us to do.

After a beautiful postlude from the bell choir, HPC members congregated in Fellowship Hall with their boxed lunches, prepared by the food & fellowship committee. Each person was randomly assigned for the second conversation. The Fellowship Hall buzzed with voices, chatter, and small talk as members greeted one another.

Scott Billig provided insight from the previous conversation about what attracted members to Highland, what is keeping them here, and what Highland does best. A few themes included: worship, sermons, music, welcoming atmosphere, community engagement, missions, and program involvement. This was a brief snapshot from the first conversation, and a written report with more detail, was provided at the meeting.

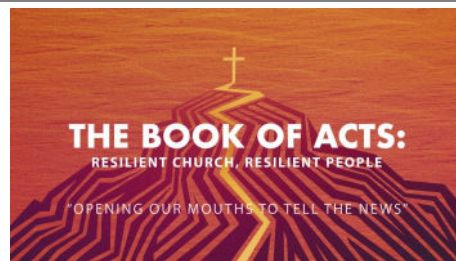
Over the past few months, the GPS team worked diligently in putting together a comprehensive collection of information that represents Highland and the community we serve. Much of this information was gathered from Highland's ACS database, Lancaster County Planning Department, and LGH/Wellspan 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment, among others. *Continued on back page*



WORSHIP SERVICE

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE: Acts 8:26-39

SERMON: "Opening Our Mouths to Tell the News"



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

10/29 Pastor Allison preaching
11/5 Pastor Ann preaching
11/12 Pastor Allison preaching
11/19 Pastor Allison preaching
11/26 Will Massey preaching
12/3 Pastor Allison preaching
12/10 Pastor Allison preaching
12/17 Pastor Allison preaching

Purpose of our Acts sermon series:

1. To explore our roots as a church
2. To encourage the congregation to dream and innovate as the early church did.
3. To study the Spirit's role in shaping a resilient church
4. To build hope and confidence in our work and our church

PRAYER LIST

In Prayer

Julie Bender
Jane Boris (sister of Carla Rothacker)
Robert Coup
Bill & Claudia Dyson (Friends of Lee Heisey)
Ryan Ginn
Averril Good
Linda Guimond
Carl Henkel
Marge Herrmann
Diane Hostetter (Mitchell)

Joan Lewis
Carolyn McGuigan
Beverly Moore
Ingeborg Ross & Family
Hank Savard
Heather Sievers
The people of Israel

PASTOR ON CALL

October 23 ~ October 29

Rev. Dr. Robert Burns



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

Acts: Resilient Church, Resilient People ~ Sermon Series Recap

Resilient churches....

- Week 1: They trust God and have faith even when that plan is not evident
- Week 2: They invite the Spirit into the church and expect transformation
- Week 3: They create communities shaped by the resurrection and the gospel of Christ
- Week 4: They boldly and unapologetically tell the story of Jesus and testify in His name
- Week 5: They keep in step with the Spirit and know they are called for a purpose
- Week 6: They welcome God's children as the Spirit welcomes them



Earth Care Bus Tour ~ Saturday, November 11, 1PM-5PM

Highland's Earth Care Team invites you on a tour of stream restoration projects in Southern Lancaster County, in partnership with Donegal Trout Unlimited. For decades, Donegal Trout Unlimited has worked to protect and enhance cold-water resources in our area, so let's take an afternoon to understand and appreciate the impact of their work! Highland member Bob Kutz will explain the process of identifying, funding, designing, implementing and maintaining stream restoration projects. There are at least 50 such projects in the region, but we will explore 3 or 4 during the tour. We will see some "before" and "after" examples, and learn about how these projects benefit all of us. Please wear weather-appropriate shoes and clothing. bring a refillable water bottle; we will provide snacks! The bus will leave from Highland at 1:10PM. We will accept registrations until November 3 or the bus is full, whichever comes first. You don't want to wait!



<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stream-restoration-projects-bus-tour-tickets-733595021457?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

Be part of the Christmas Pageant being planned We're planning to have a Christmas pageant for our family service on Sunday, December 24th at 4:30 pm. **We need actors, narrators, Black Light performers, ushers, children's hand bells, and behind the scenes helpers to make this a success. Children, youth, and adults are all encouraged to join us in the preparations. We need LOTS of people for various roles, so please SIGN UP TODAY and definitely before November 2nd.**

Contact Jennifer Weitzel at jenniferweitzel@highlandpc.org OR Will Massey at willmassey@highlandpc.org for more information. Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/hpc2023xmas430>



Dorothy Rose Smith Concert Series Enjoy an entertaining evening on **Wednesday, Nov 1**, starting at **7 pm** with the **Rizzetta's Tones**, a Celtic Americana band, comprised of two hammer dulcimers, silver flute, high and low whistles, guitar, bass guitar, with alto and bass melodions. Additional sounds are from a button accordion, Greek bouzouki, mandolin, autoharp, ukulele, as well as bodhran, djembe, and other percussion instruments add to the variety of sounds.

Band members Randy Kochel, Amanda Wells, Linda Lohr, Bill Stine and Jared McDonald will sing lead and backup vocals on songs often with poignant and humorous lyrics and commentary. Their repertoire includes music from Ireland, Scotland, and the USA, drawing as well from the traditions of other lands.

Forging new arrangements and writing their own material, this local ensemble presents audiences with a pleasing twist while respecting musical traditions. You're in for a fun evening at Highland Presbyterian Church. Please give the **"TONES"** a warm welcome.

Stewardship Update From the Finance and Stewardship Committee: here is our financial position through

September:	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Total Revenues:	\$841,141	\$1,036,680
Total Expenses:	\$942,966	\$1,028,283
Revenues vs. Expenses:	\$(101,825)	

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Jeff Doane provided us with the opportunity to “look in the mirror” at statistics related to Highland, including membership, location, finances, committees, mission, and facilities. Later, Diane Loucks presented on “looking out the window” into our communities. She provided statistics on population demographics, growth in the community, housing, employment, poverty, schools, healthcare, earth care, and HPC’s community outreach.

HPC members reflected on the statistics presented and recorded what surprised, energized, and concerned them. It was recognized that 30 minutes of time to react to 30 minutes of presentation material was not nearly enough to do justice to our “Look In the Mirror” or “Out the Window” realities at Highland, but the “fly-overs”/essential facts communicated, provided conversation starters and foundational information for consideration of our present and near future challenges and opportunities.

We are excited to host the next and last congregational conversation, ***The Future***, on **November 12th!**

Come ready to do some individual writing on your ideas about the future... *a few dreams* that we hope have started to bubble up in you. Come to share the dreams stirred up through the information presented; through reflection on your own community experiences; and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, who we trust, has been encouraging all of us during this time of visioning.

We're moving towards collectively creating a *Few God Sized Dreams!* And,
We appreciate everyone’s involvement thus far and can’t wait to hear your thoughts and ideas next time!

