

Volume 118, Issue

the highland HEARTBEAT

December 17, 2023



CONNECTING YOU
WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY

Holiday Fellowship



Caroling at Christmas TODAY December 17th from 2:30 - 5:00 PM, carolers of ALL ages are invited to gather in the Youth Room before walking to Long Community where we'll sing Christmas carols and pass out treats. We'll end our night with walking tacos at the church. See Jennifer Weitzel or Will Massey to let them know you're coming. The more the merrier!

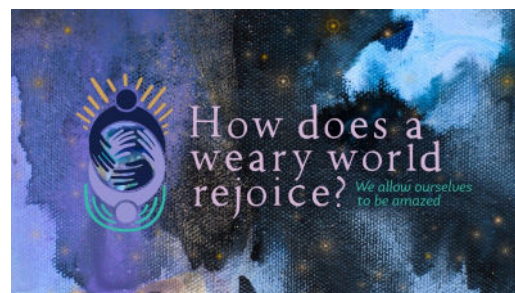
WORSHIP SERVICE/PREACHING CALENDAR

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:57-80
SERMON: "We Allow Ourselves to be Amazed"

How does a weary world rejoice?" Advent Sermon Series
Experience the hope, love, peace and JOY of the season with your church family.

Christmas Eve Service Schedule

9:30 am Ignite 10am Traditional Worship
4:30 pm Family Christmas Service 8 pm Candlelight Service



VIEWING OF ONLINE SERVICES

- Go to www.youtube.com
- In the YouTube search bar, type "Highland Presbyterian Church"
- You should see the Highland picture (as seen below) at the top of the search results, click it.
- Here, you will find all of our weekly services and devotionals by date, including our recent online services.
- Worship services are livestreamed here at 10 am on Sunday mornings so you can watch it as it happens.

GIVING

- Mail your contributions to Highland Presbyterian church at 500 E. Roseville Road, Lancaster, PA 17601.
- 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 below and it will take you to the online giving on our website.

If you have general questions, please contact Mike Nolt, Church Administrator at mikenolt@highlandpc.org or call the church office at 717-569-2651.



PRAYER LIST

In Memory

Family of M. Joan Barney
Family of Sylvia Seymour
Family of Rev. Dr. Richard Vieth

In Prayer

Julie Bender
Robert Coup
Mary Catherine Ebner
(sister of Julie Bender)
Helen Emmitt
Pete Faber
Linda Guimond
Carl Henkel
Marge Herrmann
Diane Hostetter (Mitchell)
Samuel Huffard
(father of Ginny Miller)
Sybil Lawrence

Joan Lewis
Carolyn McGuigan
Beverly Moore
Shirley Offermann
Ingeborg Ross
Hank Savard
Maya Thompson
(great niece of Rita Pickles)
Jim Wimer
The people of Israel, Gaza,
Ukraine, Argentina, Guyana
and Argentina

PASTOR ON CALL

December 18 ~ December 24

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

The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four special offerings each year that helps us connect with the national and international ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A). 50% of your Christmas Joy gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The other 50% of your gifts assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future! **To contribute, you can write a check to Highland with "Christmas Joy" in the memo line. Additionally, you can text CHRISTMASJOY to 91999 to give or visit pcusa.org/christmasjoy**



 **The Deacons and the Brass Bands** have planned Christmas Caroling on **Tuesday, December 19** at Landis Homes, in the High Foundation Auditorium. We are scheduled to arrive and begin caroling around 6:45 pm for 30 to 40 minutes total. It is open to church members who wish to join and get in the Christmas Spirit. We thank Jerry Rothacker and Joe Chesnutt for arranging the Brass Group.

Women of Highland want to start the new year off on the right foot with a Bible Study with other women? Starting on Thursday, January 4 and running for 5 weeks until February 1, we will study Philippians with Beth and Melissa Moore. This DVD based study will be a one-hour video, with an additional 30 minutes for discussion, questions, and prayer. We will meet in room 208 at 7:00. Workbooks are available for \$20. Contact Barb Droz if you are interested or call the church office.



"Gathering of Grieving Guys" Starting January 14th, Highland will be offering a time for grieving guys to gather together for six weeks to move through the significant stages of grief to arrive at a place of recovery in living their lives. Pastors Ann and Ken Osborne and other invited guests will lead you and other recently widowed and other grieving men through an engaging process involving brief information sharing, small group conversation, weekly reflection, journaling, and prayer support. The six weeks of connection will enable you to learn about how you personally experience grief and loss as well as offer you support for renewal, healing, and grief recovery. The weekly one hour gathering will be held from 11:30am to 12:30pm, following the 10am Sunday, Worship Service. The study will start on Sunday, January 14th and finish on Sunday, February 18th. Each week will cover a different topic and use the resource entitled "The Grief Recovery Handbook" by John W. James and Russell Friedman. Copies of the \$10 resource are available for your purchase between now and January 14th when you register. You can register and purchase the book at the sign-up table in the Narthex on Sundays beginning December 17th.

Childcare During Christmas Eve Services Our **10:00 AM service** will have staffed nursery care for children ages three and under. All older children may grab an activity bag from the children's classroom area before service that day and remain with their grown-ups for the service. Families are also welcome to use the classroom space under the supervision of their own grown-up, since the service can be heard from the classroom's speakers. We kindly ask that you return the activity bags and tidy the play space after the service.



The **4:30 PM Family service** is meant for all ages! Everyone is invited into the Fellowship Hall; no childcare provided.

The **8:00 PM Traditional Candlelight Service** will not have any staffed childcare services available, but we will open the Chapel for families with children. We value the many types of learning styles of children and encourage families to utilize this family-friendly space when children need to move around. The service will be livestreamed in the Chapel so everyone can still be connected to the service.



Mission & Outreach Corner

Presbyterian Giving Catalog You can make a difference in the lives of others by giving through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. Every act of generosity counts, and this is your opportunity to help shape a world built upon shared humanity, amplified generosity, and God's love. Everyone has something to give and through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog, you can connect with those in need. The Catalog provides a space where you can contribute to a cause close to your heart to make giving easy and rewarding. Gift options include contributions to community farming projects, disaster relief, educational programs, clean water solutions, and many more. To purchase a gift, go to the following link or hold your phone camera over the QR code below: <https://presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org/>



SCAN ME

Reverse Advent Calendar Roast Beef, Chicken, Lasagna, Fish? What's your traditional dinner? Yule log, cookies or pie? Does your family have requests? While purchasing ingredients for your Christmas dinner, add some items from the Advent Food Calendar. Remember those in need and bring the listed food items to church during the week or on Sunday mornings. Your donations will be taken to the Lancaster Food Hub. The Food Hub provides food for those deeply affected by poverty as well as the working poor. On Christmas day, give thanks for your meal. Give additional thanks that you were able to provide food for others. Any questions, please see Juanita Fowler or call the church office.



Youth Group Meals and Volunteers You are invited once again to care for our young people and support their ministry in Spring 2024. Youth group gathers almost every Sunday at 4:30-6:30 in the Youth Room. You may sign up for a week to bring a meal that can feed 15+ people, or you may feel called to join our roster of youth ministry volunteers. Contact Will Massey if you are interested, or hold your phone camera over the code to the right to sign up for a slot. Thank you for all the ways that this congregation supports Youth Ministry!

January Youth Retreat: Mid-Winter Advance! Highland Youth will participate in the Mid-Winter Advance Retreat at Refreshing Mountain, January 26-28. Several youth groups from the area will be there for worship, play, and spiritual encouragement. See more about the event here: <https://www.midwinteradvance.com> Let's get a good crew together and spend a weekend at Refreshing Mountain! We want everybody to be signed up by Christmas. A separate registration form is available for download within the link below. The cost is \$175, but please let Will Massey know if you would like to talk about a scholarship. <https://forms.office.com/r/fHtiZ6908j>



SCAN ME

Referees & Snack Stand Volunteers for Upward Basketball 2024 180 players have signed up for Upward Basketball at Highland beginning January 2024, which has exceeded our goal! What if you could help us make a difference in the lives of these children by refereeing games or serving at our snack stand? Email Jennifer Weitzel at upwardhpc@gmail.com to learn more about these opportunities. Clearances required for refs. Help us spread the word to others that might also be interested.



Children's Ministry Helpers needed on Sunday Mornings, Sign up to make a difference with children and their spiritual formation. Now scheduling for January through May 2023. <https://tinyurl.com/HPCJanMay2024>.

New Years at Noon Countdown! Sunday 12/31, Immediately following the service. Join us as we countdown to 12:00 PM noon by celebrating with appetizers and sparkling juice in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/HPCCountdown2023> or RSVP to jenniferweitzel@highlandpc.org by 12/24.

