



# The Highland Heartbeat

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

**Sunday, November 30, 2025**

## Christmas JOY: Caroling & Lunch

**Thursday, December 4  
10:30 AM to 1:00 PM**

Register in the narthex or by calling the church office. To reserve a spot, we ask that you put down a \$5 deposit. Registration is required so we can provide food for everyone!



## Women's Christmas Tea

*All mothers, daughters, and grandmothers are welcome!*

**Saturday, December 20**

Arrive at 11:30 AM | \$5 to attend

Entertainment will begin at 11:45 AM, and food will be available at 12:15 PM. We hope to see you there!



*Don't forget to pick up your 2025 Advent booklet in the narthex **today!** The devotions in the booklet will also be sent weekly by e-mail.*

## Reverse Advent Calendar

Instead of receiving, let's **give** to those in need by supporting the **Lancaster Food Hub**! Starting tomorrow, add the items listed on the **Reverse Advent Calendar** to your grocery list.

- The full calendar is available on the kiosk next to the Heartbeat, or on the round table in the narthex.
- You can bring your food items each Sunday during Advent, or fill a box of your own and bring it in on Christmas Eve.
- Collection boxes are located in the narthex and the office reception area.
- For questions, see Deb Peterson.

### Week 1

- December 1** Box of cereal (low sugar)
- December 2** Jar of peanut butter
- December 3** Taco kits
- December 4** Macaroni & cheese
- December 5** Canned fruit (in juice or light syrup)
- December 6** Canned tomatoes
- December 7** Canned tuna

## Carol with Highland!

**Sunday, December 14 at 2:00 PM**

Willow Valley Communities

*We will carpool from Highland at 1:15 PM.*

**Tuesday, December 16 at 6:45 PM**

The Long Community

*We will meet in the Hudson Room at 6:30 PM to walk to The Long Community! Please RSVP by contacting Wendy Hershey at [wwhershey316@gmail.com](mailto:wwhershey316@gmail.com).*



## On the Way to the Manger: A Family Advent-ure

**Sunday, December 7**

**After worship in Fellowship Hall**

Join us for a family-friendly Advent kickoff as we begin the journey toward Christmas together! We'll share lunch, build Advent wreaths, and explore the themes of **hope**, **peace**, **joy**, and **love** through hands-on storytelling and activities for all ages.

*Come wonder, create, and prepare your heart for Jesus — everyone is welcome on this journey to the manger.*



## Highland Afghan Resettlement Initiative: Update on Afghan Family

In 2021, Highland sponsored several families and individuals who fled Afghanistan when it fell to the Taliban. One of the refugees we assisted was a young woman who resettled in Lancaster with her extended family. Sahar worked two jobs (including one at Church World Service) while attending HACC, where she graduated last year with honors! This summer she was accepted into Cornell University's Architecture program. We wrote a letter of support explaining why her parents (who escaped to Pakistan) are unable to provide financial assistance. Sahar was awarded an academic scholarship and received a dependency override. She began the program this fall and is grateful to be making new friends while diligently studying and working on design projects.



Meanwhile, Sahar's parents and four siblings are in a somewhat safe, but often precarious living situation. Last year, they applied for refugee status through Welcome Corps. Highland raised the necessary funds for their travel and initial support. We anticipated their arrival this past January when all refugee admissions were suddenly halted. We invite you to join us in praying that an exception will be made so the family can travel here as refugees and be reunited with Sahar.

### Christmas Poinsettias

Christmas poinsettias symbolize hope and purity. One of the Deacons' many ministries is to provide you with the opportunity to order beautiful poinsettias. Poinsettias cost **\$10 each**, and can be purchased as a gift, dedicated in memory or honor of loved ones, or for your own personal enjoyment!

Poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary on **Sunday, December 21** and **Christmas Eve**.

To purchase poinsettias, stop by the Deacon table in the narthex before or after Sunday services on the following dates:

**November 30 & December 7**

### Lunch & Movie: The Nativity Story

Are you looking to get past the commercialism and experience the real meaning of Christmas? Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 21** at **11:15 AM** and join us for lunch and a movie! It will take you back in time to view Mary and Joseph in Galilee, the angel coming to Mary, the long, difficult journey to Bethlehem, the birth. The movie is Biblical, yet brings the time and the people to life.

*The movie is appropriate for youth group age and older; plans are being made for a nursery and movie for the younger kids at the same time. Please sign up in the narthex or with the QR code so we have a lunch count.*



<https://forms.gle/XK9WBVVE7indNGdCA>

### Juan Calvino School in El Salvador

*Highland Presbyterian Church has a deep and rich relationship with **Juan Calvino School** (located in El Salvador). Our stories have been entwined for over 2 decades. Many members of Highland have been to the school to learn, work, and connect. Now you have an opportunity to be a part of that ongoing story!*

After initial conversations with school and church leadership in El Salvador, we will have an interest meeting **following worship on December 14**. This will be an opportunity to get some information and consider joining a group on a trip to El Salvador in the summer of 2026. Please plan to join us in **Room 204** if you would like to be a part of this story!





## Christmas Bags for Red Rose Manor

Throughout the year, the women of Highland gather toiletries to give as Christmas gifts to the residents of **Red Rose Manor**, a local assisted living facility in Lancaster City. They are still in need of hard candy, diabetic candy, small tissue packets, and full-sized lotions, soaps, and shampoos. Please drop off your donations in the wicker basket by the food pantry near Fellowship Hall. We will fill the bags in **mid-December!**



## Highland Performing Arts Upcoming Concert



Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 PM



After the concert, join us in Fellowship Hall at **4:30 PM** for a **Patron Reception!** We truly appreciate your ongoing support of the Highland Performing Arts.

### The Heritage Chorale of Lancaster

Barry Sawyer, Director

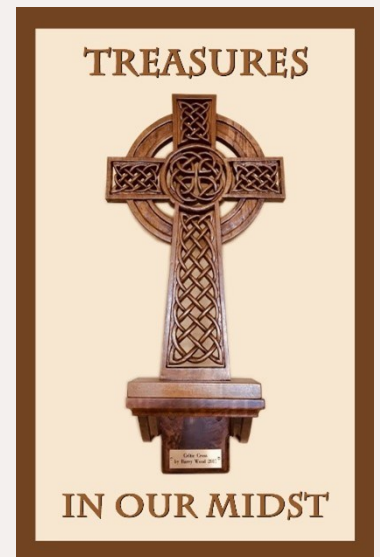
## Treasures in Our Midst

Highland is proud to serve as the custodian of the many beautiful works of art and historic artifacts that are displayed throughout the church. These treasures, both historical and contemporary, enrich our shared space and help to tell the story of our faith community. The **Art and Artifacts Committee** is dedicated to making the congregation more aware of these remarkable pieces, as we believe they are a meaningful part of our collective heritage.

This beautiful walnut Celtic cross was carved by Highland member Barry Wood. He incorporated the Celtic knot and rings to symbolize eternity, God's never-ending presence, and God's love for his people. The intricate interlacing of the Celtic knot, with no beginning or end, visually represents eternity and the unbroken connection between God and His people. The cross is on display in the narthex on the wall to the right of the nursery.

The Art and Artifacts Committee has also created a self-guided Holy Spirit Doves and Celtic Crosses Tour which allows you to explore these meaningful works at your own pace. Tour brochures are available at the Welcome Center. Other "treasures" can be viewed on Highland's website under the **About Us** tab.

Keep an eye out for more "Treasures in Our Midst" articles in upcoming issues of The Heartbeat, highlighting some of these cherished works and share their unique stories with you.



## Quilters' Christmas Sale

Sunday, December 7 & Sunday, December 14

Next Sunday, December 7,

stop by the quilters' table in the narthex before worship and shop for a variety of **handmade** items, including stocking stuffers, hostess gifts, table runners, wall hangings, baby quilts, and more! Your purchases will help to support women and children locally, nationally, and internationally.



## Hilites Progressive Christmas Party

Sunday, December 14

Appetizers — 5:30 - 7:45 PM

Desserts & Ornament Exchange — 8:00 PM

- \$10 per person to attend; please register using the QR code!
- Sign up to bring an appetizer or a dessert by **Monday, December 8.**
- To participate in the optional ornament exchange, bring a wrapped ornament (valued ~\$10).
- Questions? Contact Dana Mead.



# Worship

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## This Week's Scripture

Isaiah 11:1-10  
"The Voices of Advent:  
The Voice of Isaiah"  
Rev. Allison Beaulieu

## Upcoming Preaching Schedule

December 7  
Choir & Orchestra:  
*Hodie Christus Natus Est*

# Upcoming Events

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## Thursday, December 4

**10:30 AM** Christmas JOY: Caroling & Lunch

## Sunday, December 7

**9:30 AM** Quilters' Christmas Sale

**10:00 AM** Choir & Orchestra: *Hodie Christus Natus Est*

**11:00 AM** On the Way to the Manger: A Family Advent-ure

## Thursday, December 11

**7:00 PM** Ladies Night Out at Harvest Grill

## Sunday, December 14

**9:30 AM** Quilters' Christmas Sale

**3:00 PM** The Heritage Chorale of Lancaster

**2:00 PM** Christmas Caroling at Willow Valley

**5:30 PM** Hilites Progressive Christmas Party

## Worship Times

Ignite Worship | 9:30 AM

Traditional Worship | 10:00 AM

## 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 Children, Youth & Family Ministries — Sarah Hostetter



## Office Hours

**Monday - Thursday**

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**Friday**

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

## Contact Information

717-569-2651

[www.HighlandPC.org](http://www.HighlandPC.org)

500 East Roseville Road

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For staff contact information, visit our website at [www.highlandpc.org](http://www.highlandpc.org) and go to **About Us > Staff**, or ask the reception desk for a copy of our Staff & Committee Contacts brochure.