



The Highland Heartbeat

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

Sunday, December 14, 2025

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 **today**. This is 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 the **library** if you would like to be a part of this story!

Carol with Highland!

Today at 2:00 PM

Willow Valley Communities

We are carpooling from Highland at 1:15 PM. If you're not carpooling, please meet us in the lobby of The Glen at Willow Valley.

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.



Highland Performing Arts

The Heritage Choral of Lancaster

In the Bleak Midwinter

Barry Sawyer, Director

Today at 3:00 PM

If you're a **patron**, please join us in Fellowship Hall at **4:30 PM** for a **reception!** We truly appreciate your ongoing support of the Highland Performing Arts.

Hilites Progressive Christmas Party

Today, December 14

Appetizers — 5:30 - 7:45 PM

Desserts & Ornament Exchange — 8:00 PM

- \$10 per person to attend.
- To participate in the optional ornament exchange, bring a wrapped ornament (valued ~\$10)!
- Questions? Contact Dana Mead.



Family Christmas Pageant | 4:30 PM

Families are invited to a joyful, interactive Christmas Eve service where every child can be part of the story! Children may choose a provided costume (or bring their own) as we retell the Christmas Story through a simple, no-rehearsal pageant woven with carols, a creative biblical retelling, and a candlelit "Silent Night" in the Sanctuary.



Traditional Candlelight Service | 8:00 PM

This service features scripture, carols, choir, and a thoughtful message as we enter the wonder of the Nativity story together. We will conclude with the beloved tradition of candlelight and "Silent Night," filling the Sanctuary with warmth and hope as we welcome the Christ Child once again. All are welcome to this meaningful evening of worship, reflection, and joy.

Women's Christmas Tea

All mothers, daughters, and grandmothers are welcome!

Next Saturday, December 20

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



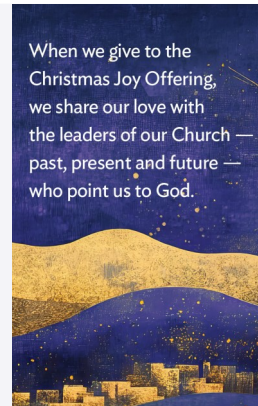
Entertainment will begin at 11:45 AM, and food will be available at 12:15 PM.

We hope to see you there!

Christmas Joy Offering

On **Sunday, December 21**, we will collect the annual Christmas Joy Offering. This **PC(USA)** offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need. It also develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. Please help us celebrate this season of giving by supporting this offering.

When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future — who point us to God.



Lunch & Movie: *The Nativity Story*

Join us for a meal and a movie as we watch *The Nativity Story*, a moving presentation on the true meaning of Christmas. This meaningful film beautifully portrays the birth of Christ and the journey of Mary and Joseph. Bring a friend and experience this inspiring film together!



This movie is recommended for 6th grade and older. Younger children will be provided with childcare and the movie The Star.



Sunday, December 21

11:30 AM to 2:00 PM

Fellowship Hall

<https://forms.gle/XK9WBVVE7indNGdCA>

Adult Sunday School

Start 2026 with a deeper dive into Scripture and good conversation! Beginning **January 11**, you're invited to gather after worship from **11:30 to 12:30** in **Room 204** for a new Adult Sunday School series. This study is designed with flexibility in mind: come when you can, jump in at any point, and bring your questions. From January through Easter, we'll journey through the Gospel of Matthew, exploring its sweeping narrative and paying special attention to one of its central themes: the Kingdom of Heaven. Whether you're looking to learn something new, reconnect with Scripture, or simply enjoy thoughtful discussion with others, there's a place for you. We hope you'll join us!

Reverse Advent Calendar

We're over halfway there! In the midst of all the hustle and bustle of Christmas, don't forget to continue shopping for those who face food insecurity in our community. Feel free to complete the calendar and bring in the remaining food items **next Sunday, or on Christmas Eve**. Thank you for supporting the Lancaster Food Hub with your generous donations!

- The full calendar is available on the kiosk next to the Heartbeat, or on the round table in the narthex.
- Collection boxes are located in the narthex and office reception area.
- Questions? Contact Deb Peterson.

Week 3

- December 14** Hamburger Helper
- December 15** Package of oatmeal
- December 16** Canned corn
- December 17** Canned mixed vegetables
- December 18** Package pasta (whole wheat preferred)
- December 19** Dried beans/lentils
- December 20** Beef stew (pull-tab can)

Wednesday Morning Breakfast Group

Interested in good fellowship, good discussions, and a good breakfast too? The Highland men's breakfast group meets at **Oregon Dairy** on **Wednesday mornings** from **7:30 to 9:00 AM**. Each week, we read a book and discuss a chapter or two. We take turns leading the discussion; some days there's no leader, just conversation, and we welcome those who'd simply like to listen as well. Book topics vary from theology (we are currently reading Elaine Pagels' *Miracles and Wonder*), to history (recent biographies of Lincoln and Franklin), to works that challenge our thinking (*The Tipping Point*, *Talking to Strangers*, and books on artificial intelligence). In the new year, we will start a new book to be determined in the coming weeks. Please contact Dick Entz for more details!

Visit the Library!

Christmas is coming fast, and it is always a time for reflection and blessings! Please browse the round table in the library for books, both fiction and non, that will speak to your heart.



From Your Stewardship Committee: Thank You and a Reminder

Highland's congregation has responded generously to this fall's stewardship campaign. As of December 8, about **248** individuals and families have pledged just over **\$975,000** in financial support for 2026. This will go far in helping us meet what is expected to be a 2026 budget of around \$1.4 million, and we are grateful for the response so far.

At the same time, some **66** individuals and families who submitted a pledge for 2025 have not yet done so for 2026. To get us further toward greater support of next year's budget, we need to hear from those who have not yet pledged. Pledge cards can be obtained by calling the church office. It is not too late to pledge, and no amount is too small.

Winter Weather Closure Policy

Highland Presbyterian Church will continue to monitor **Manheim Township School District** (MTSD), but weather decisions will be made based on *actual* conditions and safety, not strictly school status. If Manheim Township School District issues a delay, or if Highland determines road/parking conditions warrant a delay, Highland will operate on a **2-hour delay**.

Full Closure

A full closure happens when roads, parking, or walkways are unsafe. During a full closure, the office and all in-person programs are **anceled**, with essential staff allowed on-site (if safe to do so). **Announcements** will be made via the church website, email, social media, WGAL, and phone message. Outside groups will be notified directly.

*Don't forget to pick up a copy of the **2025 Advent Booklet** from the narthex, or by contacting the front office. The devotions in the booklet are also sent weekly by e-mail.*

Highland Happenings

Ingathering Sunday & Giving Tree Mission

On November 30, several hundred gifts filled the narthex as a result of our annual Giving Tree mission. This year, Highland donated **345 in-kind gifts** and **142 gift cards** — nearly 500 gifts in total! Through your generosity, we were able to provide gifts to individuals supported by **13 local agencies**, help support the Healthy Beginnings program, and donate Bibles to the Lancaster County Prison.

More than 40 Highland members took part in this year's effort, supported by a core committee who creates and hangs the tags on the trees, shops, collects and organizes the gifts on Ingathering Sunday, and delivers them to our partner agencies. We are grateful for every person who contributed — whether you purchased a gift, volunteered your time, or prayed for the project's success. Thank you for helping make this wonderful, caring mission possible.

If you're interested in assisting with the 2026 Giving Tree, please contact John Herr or Barb Denlinger.



Worship



This Week's Scripture

Matthew 11:2-11
"The Voices of Advent:
John the Baptist"
Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Upcoming Preaching Schedule

December 21
Rev. Matt Drumheller

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 14

- 9:00 AM** Quilters' Christmas Sale
- 2:00 PM** Christmas Caroling at Willow Valley
- 3:00 PM** The Heritage Chorale of Lancaster
- 5:30 PM** Hilites Progressive Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 16

- 6:45 PM** Christmas Caroling at The Long Community

Wednesday, December 17

- 12:00 PM** Working Adult Lunch at S. Clyde Weaver
- 6:00 PM** Men's Trivia Night at Stoner Grille

Saturday, December 20

- 11:30 AM** Women's Christmas Tea

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
Ignite Worship Leader — Dr. Jeffrey Martin
IT/Media Coordinator & 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
500 East Roseville Road
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17601

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

*Highland: A Place to be
Seen, Known, & Loved*

Year to Date Finances

As of November 30, 2025
Expenses exceed revenues by \$90,000

| | Actual | Budget | Difference |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Revenue | \$1,098,000 | \$1,334,000 | - \$236,000 |
| Expenses | \$1,188,000 | \$1,311,000 | - \$123,000 |