



The Highland Heartbeat

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

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Curious Conversations: Practicing Grace Across Our Differences

After two successful pilot sessions, Highland's Matthew 25 Committee and the Presbytery of Donegal are inviting the wider congregation to join our next **Curious Conversations** gathering. Curious Conversations creates a thoughtful, structured space for people to listen to one another across different viewpoints. This structure focuses on telling our stories as a chance to practice curiosity, compassion, and understanding.

Curious Conversations aligns with Highland's vision to see, know, and love all God's people, and with our values of compassion, kindness, love, welcome, and unity. It also aligns with our strategic plan in which we envision Highland as a safe place to have important conversations about difficult issues. Using a centering piece of Scripture and some background information, participants will reflect on a framing question, ask open and curious follow-up questions, and learn to remain in community even when we disagree. You are welcome to speak or simply listen. Whatever your perspective, your presence enriches the conversation.



Sunday, January 18

Join us at **2:30 PM**, with a **2:00 PM** orientation for first-time participants. **Please sign up in the Narthex, or using the QR code below.**



*Come with curiosity.
Come with kindness.
Come as you are.*

Exploring a 2026 Trip to El Salvador

In December, a group gathered after worship for an interest meeting about a potential 2026 trip to our mission partner, Juan Calvino, in San Salvador, El Salvador. The trip is open to participants from high school age through adulthood. If you are interested in this trip and would like to be included in our planning, please contact **Pastor Matt** by **Sunday, January 18**, so we can continue discerning next steps together. More details will be shared as plans take shape.

Email Updates

As email continues to be an important way we share updates and information about church life and ministries, we encourage you to ensure that your current email address is on file with the church.

If you previously received emails from us but no longer do, please contact the church office so we can help troubleshoot the issue. Our goal is to keep everyone informed and connected. Thank you for helping us stay in touch!



Weekly Study Groups

Adult Sunday School

Sundays
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Room 204

Until 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.

Women's Bible Study

Thursdays
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Room 208

Through March 13, we'll study the book of Revelation by Jen Wilkin. The cost of the workbook is \$25, which includes video access. Interested? Contact Barb Droz or the church office.

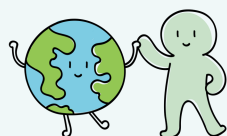
Do you plan to shop for groceries in 2026?

If you do, we suggest that you purchase a gift card at the **Market Place stand** in the narthex on Sunday morning! Gift cards are available for Giant, Weis, Stauffer's, and Oregon Dairy in \$25 and \$50 denominations, and can be purchased using cash or check. In 2025, the sale of cards increased by more than **\$11,000**, and the church donated **\$3,000** to the Lancaster County Food Hub as a result of your purchases. Thank you to everyone who participated in 2025!

Will you be a part of a greater increase in 2026 so that more funding can be provided to help the growing number of those facing food insecurity in Lancaster County? A \$50 gift card from one of the participating grocery stores will buy you \$50 worth of groceries, while helping stamp out hunger. It's a win/win, and we hope you'll consider participating so Highland can make an even greater impact on our local community this year!



Earth Care Partner Events



**SAT
Jan
17** **1:00 - 3:00 PM**
New Year Hike at Welsh
Mountain Nature Preserve



**THUR
Jan
22** **6:00 - 7:00 PM**
Nature Hour:
How to Love a Forest



**SAT
Jan
24** **1:00 - 4:00 PM**
Give Back to Nature at
High Family Nature Preserve



Wednesday Morning Breakfast Group

Interested in good fellowship, good discussions, & 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). If you're interested, please contact Dick Entz for more details!



Proposed Changes to Bylaws

It has been more than a quarter century (28 years, to be exact) since Highland last changed its congregational and corporate bylaws — the time has come to revisit them! On December 2, 2025, Session approved a proposed set of bylaws for presentation to the congregation for a vote at its annual meeting on **January 25**.

A church-wide email will be sent later this month with a link to the new bylaws, and a printed copy can be obtained by calling the church office. If there are questions, please get in touch with Bob Hoelscher. Everyone is encouraged to bring questions and comments to Bob *before* the January 25 congregational meeting.

By way of summary, the proposed new bylaws:

- Replace the separate 1998 bylaws for the congregation and the corporation with a new, combined, and shorter document.
- Permit attendance and voting by electronic means at meetings.
- Set quorums for meetings of Session, Board of Trustees, and Board of Deacons.
- Allow the Session to change the number of seats on church boards.
- Generally, vest the Session with responsibilities consistent with Presbyterian principles of governance.

Recent Visitors Get-Together

A recent visitor to Highland? A get-together for recent visitors will be held after the worship service on **Sunday, February 1** in **McClintock Chapel**. This will offer an opportunity for you to interact with staff members and each other, learn more about the overall scope of Highland's ministry, and get answers to some questions that you might have. We look forward to seeing you then!

For further information, please contact the church office or Larry and Anita Ewing.

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 **canceled**, 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.

Chancel Flowers

Each Sunday, the Deacons of the church provide a bouquet of flowers in the sanctuary for all to enjoy as we worship. After the service, the Deacons divide the flowers, put them into vases, and deliver them to hospitals, nursing homes, and private residences for the enjoyment of our members who are unable to attend our church services.

The cost of the flowers and vases continues to rise, and we really need your help. For a \$25 donation, you can honor a special someone or event in your life on a Sunday of your choice.

To honor an individual or event:

- Go to the sign-up board in the narthex and put your name on the chart.
- Fill out a paper form and return it to the church, either by mail or by placing the form in the Church Administrator's mailbox located behind the reception desk, with your \$25 donation.

Your name and the honoree's name (or event) will be printed in the bulletin on your chosen Sunday. Your help and support will allow the Deacons to continue this important mission!



Update from Pastor Matt Travel Seminar to India

From December 27 to January 16, Claire and I will be in India as part of an international travel seminar through Union Presbyterian Seminary. This seminar brings together current seminary students and graduates to study theological education and the practice of Christianity in a context very different from our own. A central focus of the trip is visiting seminaries and theological colleges across the country, where we will meet with students, faculty, and church leaders. We will learn how Christianity is taught and lived in a pluralistic society where it is a minority religion alongside Hinduism and Islam. We will explore what faithful witness and discipleship look like in that setting. We will also visit some of India's cultural and historical landmarks.

This experience will strengthen my ministry at Highland by enriching my theological perspective and deepening my understanding of the global church. I am grateful for your prayers and support, and I look forward to sharing more when I return.

Worship



This Week's Scripture

Matthew 3:13-17
"The Gifts of Baptism"
Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Upcoming Preaching Schedule

January 18
Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Gifts That Keep On Giving

Sermon Series: January 4 - February 1

This sermon series follows the lectionary passages from the Gospel of Matthew for the first five Sundays of the new year (with the exception of January 18, when we will step outside the lectionary in order to remain in Matthew).

The birth of Jesus is indeed a gift to all humanity. Unlike most gifts that are given and received once, however, the gift of our Savior continues to bless us over time. While Jesus' birth was a single, historical event, the grace and love we welcome through it are ongoing, shaping our hearts, guiding our thoughts, and directing our actions.

Jesus' arrival is meant to transform us not only on one holy night, but in the ordinary rhythms of daily life. During these first five weeks of the new year, we will reflect on how the gift of Jesus continues to bless us, form us, and lovingly challenge us to grow as disciples.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 18

2:30 PM Curious Conversations: Practicing Grace Across Our Differences

Wednesday, January 21

12:00 PM Working Adult Lunch at Zig's Bakery & Café

6:00 PM Men's Trivia Night at Stoner Grille

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
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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