



# The Highland Heartbeat

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

**Sunday, January 25, 2026**

Today during service, a video of the memorial garden will be shown. The video provides a virtual tour of the lovely garden that accommodates the cremains of Highland Presbyterian Church members. Brochures describing the amenities of the garden are available at the Welcome Center in the narthex. Applications for inclusion in the garden may be obtained from the church office. The Memorial Garden is easily accessible via the exit near the library or by driving to the far end of the parking lot near Long Community. Please feel free to walk the grounds.

## Save the Date!

A Service of Installation for Pastor Matt will be held at Highland on **Sunday, February 22 at 3:00 PM**, with a snow date of Sunday, March 1.

## Highland Performing Arts Upcoming Concert



To view the concert online, scan the QR code!

**Wednesday, February 4 at 7:00 PM**

## Keyboard Extravaganza Honoring Dr. Paul Thorlakson



Dr. Paul Thorlakson, Director of Music Ministry at Highland, joins Jonathan Lefever and other performers to celebrate the art of keyboarding. Highland's Steinway D concert grand piano and Wicks organ take center stage as the sanctuary comes alive with sound! Fellow artists from the Highland family, along with special guests, will perform in honor of Dr. Thorlakson as he prepares to move to Florida to pursue a new calling as Director of Music.

We celebrate Paul's more than seven years of faithful service at Highland, as well as his many contributions to the broader Lancaster musical community. With gratitude and affection, we wish Paul and Sharon safe travels, good health, and continued joy in the years ahead.

## A Fond Farewell & Best Wishes

As announced in Paul Thorlakson's email on January 8, he is leaving Highland Presbyterian Church to begin an exciting new opportunity at Shell Point Village Church. While we will certainly miss him, we are deeply grateful for his years of faithful service and are delighted for Paul as he embarks on this next chapter.

In recognition of Paul's dedication and the many ways he has enriched the life of our church, Session has approved a purse (a collection of monetary gifts) as a gesture of appreciation. Those who wish to contribute may make a check payable to Highland Presbyterian Church and include **"Paul Purse"** in the memo line.

Please submit donations by **Wednesday, February 4**. Thank you for helping us share our gratitude and send Paul off with our prayers and warmest best wishes.

## New Members Classes

Are you considering membership at Highland Presbyterian Church? We invite you to attend one of our upcoming new members classes to learn more about what it means to become part of the Highland community. Childcare will be provided during both classes. New members will be welcomed into the congregation on **Sunday, February 22**, so mark your calendar and save these important dates!

### Upcoming Classes

**Saturday, February 7**  
8:30 - 10:30 AM

**Thursday, February 12**  
6:30 - 8:30 PM

To register, contact Larry and Anita Ewing (717-824-3318) or the church office.



## Highland Book Group

Be sure to join the book group on **Wednesday, January 28** to discuss *The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn. The book group meets in **Room 208** for an hour, starting at **1:00 PM**. Join us for an interesting and often stimulating conversation. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Juanita Fowler.



## Reverse Advent Calendar: Thank You!

The Reverse Advent Calendar was very successful again last year, with a total of **1,223 pounds** of food donated to the Lancaster County Food Hub. While this is slightly less than 2024, the Reverse Advent Calendar followed an especially successful food drive in early November. With the rising cost of food, the number of individuals and families experiencing food insecurity continues to grow, making this work more important than ever. Thank you again for your support!

## 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 Share 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!

## 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.

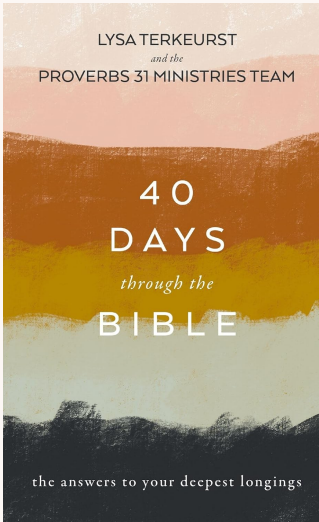
### To honor an individual or event:

- 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!*



## Bible Babes Book Club



Beginning on **Tuesday, February 17**, the Bible Babes book club will meet weekly in the **Charter Room** from **6:30 to 8:00 PM** to discuss *40 Days Through the Bible* by Lysa TerKeurst. For more information, please contact Jan Lyle-Chesnutt, Kori Wise, or the church office.

## Earth Care Partner Events

Nature Hour is a lecture series presented by **Lancaster Conservancy**, taking place on Thursdays throughout the winter. The one-hour virtual lectures, which include a Q&A with the expert presenter, cover a wide range of conservation, environmental, and nature-related topics impacting our community, region, and world to an audience of all ages of learners.

### Upcoming Lectures

**The How's and Why's of Managing Natural Lands**  
Thursday, February 5 at 6:00 PM

**Appalachian Geology**  
Thursday, February 19 at 6:00 PM



## First Reformed Community Meal

Highland continues its partnership with the **Lancaster Community Meal Program** and **First Reformed Church** to provide a meal for our unhoused neighbors in downtown Lancaster. Our next meal preparation and serving opportunity will take place on **February 10**, and we would love for you to be part of it!

This ministry is a meaningful, hands-on way to live out our calling to alleviate food insecurity and to care for others. Volunteers are needed both to help prepare the meal ahead of time and to serve guests. No special skills are required—just a willingness to show up, lend a hand, and share in a spirit of hospitality.

If you're interested in helping, please contact Pastor Matt to sign up or to learn more about how you can be involved. We hope you'll join us as we care for our neighbors.

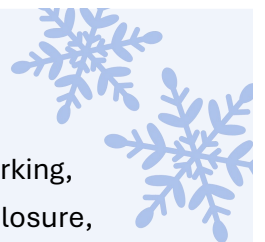


## Winter Weather Closure Policy

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. Outside groups will be notified directly.





# Worship

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## This Week's Scripture

Matthew 4:1-11

"The Gift of the Wilderness"

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

## Upcoming Preaching Schedule

**February 1**

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

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## Wednesday, February 4

**7:00 PM** Highland Keyboard Extravaganza

## Saturday, February 7

**8:30 AM** New Members Class

## Thursday, February 12

**6:30 PM** New Members Class

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

500 East Roseville Road

Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17601

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.