

Acoustic Café, Sunday, February 18

We hope you will join us for our 2024 Acoustic Café in which we celebrate God's gift of music through the leadership of musicians from our congregation. Beginning at 4:00 p.m. we will enjoy live music from singers and songwriters from our church family. Something salty, something sweet, and a stellar coffee and tea bar will enhance our afternoon. Plan to bring a friend for this delightful afternoon!



Lenten Study and Small Groups

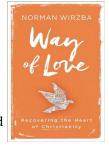
Norman Wirzba contends that Christianity can only be explained and justified if it is seen as a "way of love." The primary purpose of the church, he argues, is to train, equip, and grow its members in the ways of love. When Christians forget this centering purpose, things begin to collapse. Through stories drawn from today's world as well as from church history and the Bible, Wirzba illustrates how our fractured world can be healed by making love central to the Christian faith. Wirzba be-

lieves if the church hopes to have a vibrant future, it needs to reject fear, purity, and power as its guiding principles and rediscover the very center of its message: love.

We have three options for gathering with others to discuss and share:

Mondays 5:30–6:30 p.m., Zoom only – Courtney Stevens Thursdays 12:00–1:00 p.m., Ardmore Room – Randy Harris

Sundays 9:30–10:30 a.m., Zoom and Room 127 Room – Heather Ferguson Participants are encouraged to purchase books, new or used, through Amazon, Bookmarks, Abebooks, or wherever you like to shop. If you need help, contact <u>Heather Fergu-</u> <u>son</u>. To register for one of the discussion groups, contact the church office, 336-724-6303, <u>gpayne@highlandpres.org</u>, or <u>click here</u> to sign up.



Worship at 11:00 a.m. <u>February 18</u> First Sunday in Lent Psalm 42:1–8 Mark 1:9–15 Sermon: Randy Harris Sacrament of Baptism	 Highland Worship Online There are several ways to access worship: Click the link in the Sunday morning email; Go to <u>Highland's website</u> and click on the <u>"Highland Worship Online</u>" page; Subscribe to Highland's YouTube channel
<u>February 25</u>	where the worship videos are posted
Second Sunday in Lent	(Highland PCWS).
Mark 8:27–38	On our Worship Online page, there are
John 21:15–17	links for the Bulletin, a virtual "Friendship
Sermon: Randy Harris	Pad," as well as a virtual "offering plate."

Special Music During Worship

Join us Sunday, February 25 to hear the Winston-Salem State University Singing Rams in our 11:00 a.m. service. Under the direction of Maestra D'Walla Simmons-Burke, the Grammy-nominated ensemble has performed nationally and internationally in major performing venues and festivals



including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Washington National Cathedral, and with major symphony orchestras. They have, to-date, recorded eight compact disks, including one with Albany Records. Our Chancel Choir is thrilled to collaborate with this exquisite ensemble during the worship service, singing composer Jeffrey Ames "Let Everything That Hath Breath." This will be a worship service you won't want to miss!

Men's Breakfast



February 28, 7:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Join with the Men of the Church for a time of fellowship and study. Look for an email with details, and email <u>Randy Harris</u> if you have questions.

Randy Harris, <i>Pastor</i> , Ext. 210,	Heather Ferguson, Director of Christian	Joy Hohmann,
rharris@highlandpres.org	Education, Ext. 204,	Business Manager., Ext. 205,
Debbie Layman, Associate Pastor, Ext. 212,	hferguson@highlandpres.org	jhohmann@highlandpres.org
dlayman@highlandpres.org	Chris Gilliam, Director of Music, Ext. 202,	Gidget Payne,
Courtney Stevens, Associate Pastor Ext. 218,	cgilliam@highlandpres.org	Administrative Coordinator, Ext.
cstevens@highlandpres.org	Chris Heckman, Organist, checkman@highlandpres.org	201, gpayne@highlandpres.org
Office	nours are Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m	-4:00 p.m.

Page 2

Men's and Women's Montreat Retreats

Highland's retreats provide much needed time to get-away, unwind and experience peace. At the retreats, our hope is that you experience God in a new and powerful way, learn something new about yourself, meet new friends, and grow relationships.

Men's Retreat, March 15–17

To reserve your spot for the Men's Retreat, call the church office, 336-724-6303, or contact Jim Swing.

Women's Retreat, April 12–14

The Women's Retreat is now FULL. If you would like to be put on the waiting list, please contact <u>Gidget Payne</u> in the church office.



Retreats will be located at the Reynolds Lodge at Montreat Conference Center beginning on Friday evening before dinner and concluding on the Sunday morning after worship.

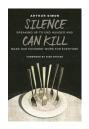
Listening to Black Voices Book Group



Join us at 7:00 p.m. on February 20, as we continue reading and reflecting on the experience of our African American neighbors, and consider what our faithful responses might entail. In February we will discuss (again) *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*, by Isabel Wilkerson, along with the new film *Origin*, directed by Ava DuVernay and based on Wilkerson's book. If you are interested, please contact <u>Randy Harris</u>.

Spring Poverty Book Group

This spring our Poverty Book Group will discuss *Silence Can Kill: Speaking Up to End Hunger and Make Our Economy Work for Everyone* by Art Simon with a forward by Rick Steves. We will meet in-person at 7:00 p.m. on Mondays March 25, April 22, and May 20. Senator Bob Dole said of the book, "Simon makes a credible case that ending hunger is a surprisingly attainable goal – one that can be achieved through determination and a uni-



fied voice. More than just informative, this book is a call to action." We hope you will consider reading and discussing this book with us! Contact <u>Debbie Layman</u> if you have interest in joining the discussions.

News and Notes

In Our Prayers: Craig Bethel, Home; Bill Kay, Encompass Health; John Woodmansee, Forsyth; *Edmond Pendrich*, Home; *Betsy Sell*, Home; *Emelda Lawing*, Home with Hospice; Janice McBride, Home; Joe Mitchener, Home; Sue Duncan, Trellis; Curtis Patterson, Home; Parks Berryhill, Salemtowne Healthcare; Esther and Les Preston, Home; Heather Greene, Homestead Hills Assisted Living; Jean Loftis, Salemtowne Assisted Living; *Jim Womble*, Heritage Woods; *Mary* Pace, Brookdale on Peace Haven; Wes McGraw, Homestead Hills; John Anderson, Salemtowne Memory Care; Ruth Banbury, Carriage Club Assisted Living (Charlotte).

Bless You! ~ Our prayers for one another. Each week we invite you to pray for members of our Highland family. We will pray not because anything is wrong, but because we care about each other.

FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18, please pray for Bruce Ayres and Patsy Livingston; John Calhoun; Andy and Margaret Cundiff; Steve and Ellen McCullough; Steve and Marty Moore; Aaron, Eileen, Madeline and Matthew Ronshiem: Rebecca and Bob Schwartz; Steve Zorn.

FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, please pray for David and Lisa Alley; Mark, Amy, Milo and Luke Archambault; Hank and Betty Barnum; Kim, Jesse, Sierra, Zora and Corinne Fontenot; Dave and Cathy McCall; Natalie Sevin, Anh Nghiem, Willoughby and Annika Nghiem; Royce, Annette and Henry Thompson; Catherine Upchurch; Kelly, Drew and Callan von Euw; Jim, Jordan and Theo Xu. The Lord bless you and keep you. Numbers 6:24



Sharing Jov with March Birthdavs!

- 1 Allison Bass
- 2 Mark Doughton
- 2 Buddy Sink
- Katina Barksdale 4
- 4 Lottie Kay
- 5 John Corey
- 5 Mary Jane Jackson
- 5 Ben Parish
- 6 Brett Hoge
- Addison Collins 7
- 7 Andy Scott
- 8 Henry Campbell
- 8 Oliver Chandler
- 8 Ann Walker
- 8 Sallie West
- 9 Alex Neely
- 10 Carrie Clemmer

- 11 Heidi Hart
- 11 Katherine Skinner 11 Mac Smyth
- 11 Alex Thorup
- 12 Rob Clemmer
- 13 Laura Byrd
- 13 Bob Collette
- 13 Scott Rushing
- 13 Hollie Williams
- 14 Debbie Shields
- 15 Margaret Pike
- 16 Phil Payne
- 16 Sharon Payne
- 17 Leslie Greene
- 17 Emma Link
- 17 Ellie Rose Scott
- 18 Noah Bethel

- 18 Sheila Lambert
- 18 Stewart Swing
- 19 Rachel Corbett
- 19 Fran Hawkins
- 19 Henry Lafferty
- 19 Abby Reynolds 20 Alex Curry
- 20 Tricia Murphy
- 21 Sophie Elliott
- 22 Sue Kent
- 23 Cody Beane
- 23 Emily Black
- 24 Jav Hunt
- 24 Preston Ward
- 25 John Barksdale
- 25 Aaron Ronsheim
- 26 Bobby Boles

- 26 Sam Bryant-Prosterman
- 26 Roberta Powell
- 26 Alex Scott
- 27 John Anderson
- 27 Terry Mixon
- 27 Will Rankin
- 28 Daniel Weber
- 28 Brittany Wyche
- 29 Vern Cooper
- 29 Bram Keever
- 30 Tori Patton
- 31 John Dallas



Community Service Corner

ABC of NC Child Development is a non-profit research based provider of diagnostic, therapeutic and educational services for children with autism spectrum disorder. Their philosophy is to teach children basic skills by creating an environment that motivates them to communicate and play with

others. They welcome volunteers for the front desk, special events, special projects, teacher aides or facility support. Check out the <u>abcofnc.org</u> website to learn more.

~The Community Service Committee

Climate Corner Embracing Repair Culture

Dorothy L. Sayers once said, "A society in which consumption has to be artificially stimulated in order to keep production going is a society founded on trash and waste." This sentiment rings true as we reflect on the shift towards



disposable goods in the early 1920s. Instead of focusing on durable, repairable items, our economic model promoted obsolescence and replacement, leading to a surge in waste production.

However, there's hope for change. Recent agreements between the American Farm Bureau Federation, John Deere, and third-party mechanics emphasize the right to repair agricultural equipment. This marks a significant step away from incentivizing replacements and towards facilitating repairs. Right to Repair laws are gaining traction in various states and countries, signaling a shift in consumer culture.

Here are some actionable steps to embrace repair culture:

- Advocate for right-to-repair legislation at state and national levels.
- Prioritize quality and durability when making purchasing decisions for appliances and electronics.
- Opt for sustainable fashion choices, such as repairing clothes or buying timeless pieces.
- Explore repair options before resorting to buying new items.

As Peter Mommsen reminds us, our approach to material possessions influences our attitude towards the natural world and fellow humans. Let's strive for a culture of stewardship, where repair is valued over disposal.

~The Global Service Committee



75th One Great Hour of Sharing in Lent



In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program,

and Self-Development of People—all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Over 75 years, OGHS has:

- Granted 3.1 million dollars by PDA in the United States and 15 countries
- Distributed over 55,000 pounds of seeds and seedlings to farmers
- Certified 291 PC(USA) congregations as Earth Care Congregations
- Gave a \$5,500 grant to small farmers in South Sudan
- Had 90 grants that impacted 22 countries by PHP
- Distributed 228,318 Gift of the Heart Kits and Blankets
- 875 chickens were distributed in Guatemala and Colombia
- 105 women became self-employed in Malawi
- 152 people won their land back in Sri Lanka
- 872 Presbyterian congregations purchased eco-palms for sustainable forestry and livelihoods

Highland will collect the OGHS Offering on Easter, March 31. Thank you for making a positive difference in the lives of neighbors around our world.

Thanks to All Who Gathered for the Blessing of the Animals

What a beautiful day for celebrating our beloved animal companions! Thanks to all who brought their four-legged friends in the flesh or in photos. Please stop by the Gallery Hall to see more pictures of this blessed event.



Page 6

Moore School Food Pantry

Highland, alongside Temple Emmanuel, supports Moore Elementary School by providing a food pantry for students of Moore School and their families. For the month of February, we are asking for donations of **pasta** and for **March**, we are asking for **canned** beans. Thank you!

Young Adult Ministry New Look for Thursday Gatherings

Following a strategic meeting, our group has decided to try out a rotational model for Thursday gatherings:

1st Thursday: Music Bingo at Fiddlin' Fish, 7:00 p.m. 2nd Thursday: Winston Salem Public House, 7:30 p.m. 3rd Thursday: Home and Backyard Fellowship, 7:30 p.m. 4th Thursday: Little Richards on Stratford Rd, 7:30 p.m.

We continue to value the drop in and continual nature of our time together to fellowship, study, and support one another. Anyone in a transitional place in life is welcome to join!

Serving with the Shalom Project

We continue to support the Flourish Program through serving a meal to program participants. Sign up for one of the cook or serve teams through the GroupMe for March 25.

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

The Apocryphal Jesus, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Ardmore Room The New Testament gives us 27 canonical texts – gospels, letters, and more, but these works are only a tiny fraction of the many volumes written about the life of Jesus, his family, and the apostles. This alternative body of literature falls under the category of "apocrypha," which means "hidden" or "secret," and it offers fascinating insights into the early Christian world. But these early Christian apocryphal works are more than historical curiosities. For more information, contact Heather Ferguson.

Dolorosa Gatherings Fourth Sunday, 4:00–5:00 p.m., Highland Chapel

The word, dolorosa, in Latin means "sorrowful way." Jesus shows the way to hope, healing and wholeness through journeys of sorrow and pain. If you would benefit from a time of sharing your experiences of grief and your hopes for healing and wholeness with Highland friends on similar paths, we invite you to gather in the Chapel on the fourth Sunday of the month. We will gather on Sunday, February 25.





Sunday Morning Christian Education for Adults

We have various classes for you to engage in study, conversation, and deeper understanding through Highland's Adult Christian Education offerings. Classes are available in person and on Zoom. Zoom links are included in Highland's Sunday morning email.

The Lectionary Café, Salem Room and Zoom

The *Lectionary Café* is a welcoming gathering of folks seeking to engage more deeply into the Lectionary text (scripture focus) for each Sunday. The group shares an informal and lively discussion which seeks to draw deep connections between God's intentions for our daily lives and our practices for a more faithful life together. *Facilitator: Mike Culler*



The Present Word Class, Room 124 and Zoom

The Present Word is an in-depth Bible study for adults that dives deep into God's Word, studying the Bible over a six-year period and focusing on a specific theme each quarter. The winter quarter explores faith that pleases God, and explores faith in action. The units are: Unit I, "Profiles in Faith"; Unit II, "Learning about Faith"; Unit III, "The Righteous Live by Faith."

Parents' Conversation and Coffee, Room 126

Parents are invited to gather in Room 126 for coffee and conversation. This is a time to get to know one other and compare notes on the joys and challenges of parenthood. The first Sunday each month we will have a speaker, video, or other resource for deeper conversations on faith formation in the family and other topics. Other Sundays, we will have free time to connect and share stories of "Parenthood."

The Meaning of Belonging and Our Lives in Christian Community, Ardmore Room and Zoom, begins February 18

Belonging is the question of this generation. Highland Elders and Deacons have been considering "belonging" since this year's Officer Retreat earlier in February. Like the air we breathe, belonging is also a matter of life and death. Over the next six weeks, we will explore various themes of belonging and what such belonging means for us as a faith community. Join us as we connect belonging to our lives as followers of Jesus today.

Week 1: What Does It Mean to Belong? Week 2: The Power of Belonging Week 3: The Church as a Place of Belonging Week 4: The Challenges of Belonging Week 5: Creating a Sense of Belonging Week 6: The Consequences of Belonging

Facilitators: Amy Archambault and Katina Barksdale



Lenten Movie and Dessert Nights

Mark Your Calendar Now, March 4 and March 21

Join us for movie and dessert nights as we watch two of the films referenced in Norman Wirzba's book, *Way of Love*.

Thursday, March 7, 6:00-8:30 p.m., Babette's Feast

In Babette's Feast, two devout and elderly sisters allow their cook, a French refugee, to prepare a feast in honor of their late father's 100th birthday despite their spiritual concerns over the sensuality and decadence of French cuisine.



Thursday, March 21, 6:00-8:45 p.m., As It Is In Heaven

A Swedish film that follows the journey of a famous, international conductor as he returns to his small childhood town in Sweden for early retirement. He is soon asked to help with the church choir and all of their lives begin to change.

These amazing films will help put unique perspectives to our reading and discussions on *Way of Love.* Contact <u>Heather Ferguson</u> for more information.

Child and Youth Protection Policy Training

Training for all Highland members is encouraged as we live into our baptismal calling to care for one another and especially the vulnerable among us. Training is required to be updated every three years for most volunteers and each year for the category of primary and youth volunteers. Sign up to join one of our upcoming opportunities by calling the church office or register online at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E4FAEA922AAFC1-child

Monday, February 19, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom Wednesday, February 28, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom Sunday, March 3, 12:15 p.m. in AB4

Your Opinion Counts The Adult Christian Education Values Your Input

Have you recently attended a Sunday morning class that inspired you? Do you have a suggestion for a Sunday morning elective? Would you like to teach a class or be part of a teaching team? Let us know your thoughts using the fillable evaluation form found on the Highland website under Education >Adult Sunday School ><u>CE Elective Evaluation</u>. Help us plan for future learning opportunities. Your input is always appreciated.

Sunday Mornings for Highland's Children Now-March 24, The Good Samaritan, Kindergarten-Fifth Grade

The Good Samaritan, the parable that draws children and adults into the mystery of Jesus' unique teaching and invites us into the story of a lone traveler, robbers, Temple officials, and a despised Samaritan. Through Godly Play, drama, cinema, art, cooking and movement, the children and their leaders will get closer to what it means to be a neighbor.



9:30–10:15 a.m.	The Good Samaritan (3rd floor, Education Building, various rooms)
10:15–10:45 a.m.	Children's Choir (3rd floor, Education Building, Worship Room)
11:00-12:00 p.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)
	Nursery (Infants-4 year olds) (1st floor, Education Building)
11:15-12:00 p.m.	Children & Worship (Kindergarten1st Grade) (3rd floor, Room 307)

Friday Fun Nights for Highland Children Toddlers–5th Graders and Night Out for Parents

Fridays, February 23, March 22, April 26, and May 24, 5:30–7:30 p.m. Beginning Friday, February 23, we will have a monthly night of fun and fellowship for Highland families. Parents can drop their children off in the Fellowship Hall where the children will gather for a brief time of experiencing a faith forming story, dinner just as Jesus enjoyed, around the table with friends, and play time.

The children will have lots of options for play, including corn hole, Jenga, puzzles, art materials and pickleball! We will even have a couple Highland pickleball players on hand for "coaching."

Parents will head out to a local restaurant for dinner together and a time for deepening friendships. Parents will return to the church at 7:30 to pick up their children.

Children will be accompanied by caring adults from Highland's Congregational Care Team as well as our professional childcare staff person, Judy Parro.

Parents who are interested in participating can contact <u>Heather Ferguson</u> for more information and to get on the *4th Friday Fun Night* email list.

Youth News...

Sunday Mornings

Youth Breakfast begins in the AB 9:30 a.m. Middle School Class in AB3 9:45–10:30 a.m. Senior High Class in AB4 10:00–10:45 a.m.

Youth Lunch Out

Moe's, February 25, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Come for a time of fellowship and connection as we share a meal!

Youth Sunday is March 10 Worship Planning February 25 and March 3 at 5:00 p.m.

All senior high youth are invited to share in a time of planning and preparation as we discern our focus as we look towards this special opportunity to share in leadership with our whole Highland family. Senior highs interested in having a part in writing, creating, and leading are encouraged to be at both gatherings to help us pull our gifts together to share.

Souper Bowl Win!

Thank You, Highland!

With gratitude we report the totals for our annual Souper Bowl youth led offering. Highland voted overwhelmingly with their support in favor of the 49ers, but Taylor Swift and the Chiefs combined totals brought the win to share a total of \$2009 and 145 food items for Moore School Food Pantry. Our youth loved growing their relationship this year with both agencies in their own ministry of service. Your support will go directly to impact the wellbeing of our neighbors. We all enjoyed the extra fellowship of lunch too!



Page 11

Church Calendar

Please be sure to check whether events are meeting online or in person. If a meeting will happen in person, a location is specified.

Sunday February 18

9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary 4:00 p.m. Acoustic Café, Fellowship Hall

Monday February 19

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor 5:30 p.m. Lenten Group 5:30 p.m. Long Range Planning 6:30 p.m. Child and Youth Protection Policy

Tuesday February 20

6:30 p.m. Adult Christian Education Committee 7:00 p.m. Listening to Black Voices

Wednesday February 21

11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5 6:30 p.m. Arts & Worship Committee, Parlor 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Room 100

Thursday February 22

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room12:00 p.m. Lenten Group, Ardmore Room4:00 p.m. Membership Committee, Ardmore Room7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Little Richard's

Friday February 23

5:30 p.m. Parents Night Out, Fellowship Hall

Sunday February 25

9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary

12:15 p.m. Youth Lunch, Moe's

- 4:00 p.m. Dolorosa Gathering, Chapel
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Sunday Planning for High School, AB4

Monday February 26

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor 5:30 p.m. Lenten Group

Tuesday February 27

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, Salem Room 1:30 p.m. Moore Food Pantry, Curbside

Wednesday February 28

7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall 11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5 12:00 p.m. Child and Youth Protection Policy 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Room 100

Thursday February 29

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room 12:00 p.m. Lenten Group, Ardmore Room 7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Little Richard's