

# *From Generation to Generation*

## *Stewardship of God's Gifts for 2025*

Highland Presbyterian Church  
Winston-Salem, NC



*We will tell the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord,  
and God's might, and the wonders that God has done. ❧ Psalm 78:4*

Dear Friends,

*From Generation to Generation* is our stewardship theme as we celebrate 75 years of Highland's ministry. Highland's saints have given generously of their time and talents through these many years. Their generous witness to God's steadfast, transforming love has been a beacon in our community for decades. What might we learn from them about sharing, and serving?

This year, we are mindful that our sharing of our treasure, time, and talent is largely dependent on the work of those who preceded us. As Doug Oldenburg, former president of Columbia Theological Seminary once said, *"We build on foundations we did not lay. We drink from wells we did not dig. We reap from harvests we did not sow."* In short, this life together we know at Highland owes a large debt of gratitude to the saints who have come before us. As the Psalmist suggests, we "have a goodly heritage" (Psalm 16:6).



But even as their giving and building has been such a blessing for us, we recognize the importance of our tending now to that *foundation*, that *well*, that *harvest*, so that generations yet to come may experience the blessings we know in our own time.

***Stewardship Dedication Sunday is November 17***, the day on which we celebrate our 75th anniversary. We hope everyone will bring completed Time & Talent forms and Pledge Cards with them to worship this day as we make our commitments for another year of ministry.

We are excited to continue the legacy of giving that has enabled Highland to follow Christ together through these many years. The generous giving of Highlanders in ages past enables us to live out God's good news of love, hope, peace, and reconciliation in our own time. Truly, this is good news not only for the church, but for our community and world as well.

We encourage you to take some time to review the information shared here. It includes reminders of our past, celebrations of our present ministries, information about the coming year in our life together, and ways that we can grow one step in our giving as we seek to make our future ministry possible.

Thanks be to God for the ministries, projects, and opportunities to serve that are made possible through the giving of our gifts and talents. Even as we celebrate this marvelous 75-year heritage, we look forward to our 76th year, and beyond, and all the ways that our faith will continue to be shared from generation to generation.

Joyce Griner, Chair, Stewardship Committee

Randy Harris, Pastor

## Community and Global Service, and the PC(USA)

\$305,197

From our very beginning, Highland has shared generously in our community, and beyond. Whether supporting the Experiment in Self-Reliance program in east Winston-Salem, sharing funds with participants in the Poor



People's March in 1968, sustaining the work of Crisis Control Ministry, or supporting the work of Salem Presbytery, the Benevolence portion of our budget

has a long tradition of providing resources, staff support, and volunteers for local, national, and international

efforts to bring faith, healing, hope, and relief to vulnerable persons.

Today, this part of Highland's ministry includes ongoing support for over 20 different agencies in Winston-Salem. It includes the food pantry that we operate jointly with Temple Emanuel, as well.

These dollars also keep us connected in mission with partners in Christ in the PC(USA) at home and abroad. Highland is one of the most generous supporters of Salem Presbytery, through whom we are partnered with nearly 130 Presbyterian congregations in the region, enabling us both to receive and to share in the ministry of these congregations.

Our giving supports the work of our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (USA), as well as our denom-

ination's seminaries across the country through our giving to the Theological Education Fund.

Beyond our financial support, Highland's members are involved personally with each community agency with which we partner. We also have strong participation each year for special events like the CROP Walk, a community effort in which Highland annually leads the way in generosity.



## *We will tell the coming generation*

### Administration

\$229,180

As Highland's ministry began in 1949, enthusiastic church members jumped in to support every part of our life together. The partnership of staff members and church volunteers continues to flourish!

Our Administration budget provides coordination and logistical support for the ongoing life and work of the church from week to week, and members continue to help with such tasks as preparing newsletters for mailing. They also help maintain Highland's website.

Much of this portion of the budget provides for necessities that support other parts of our ministry: printing

bulletins, newsletters, and other communications; financial accounting; committee support; coordination of outside groups seeking meeting space at the church; computer hardware and software, internet and streaming service and equipment; and staff members whose work is largely focused on the enabling of ministry.





## Christian Education

\$135,897

Before there was a Sanctuary, Highland had Sunday School classrooms. They were included in the first phase of Highland's initial construction, because the church knew the value of learning and growth for all ages in the church.

The Christian Education budget provides for curriculum and program resources for all ages, and for the staff who serve to implement these life-transforming programs.

Much of this ministry happens steadily through each week: Sunday morning church school classes for all ages; midweek Bible studies; book and movie groups; Fall, Winter, and Spring Forums; documentary screenings; and more.

We have revamped our children's educational ministry to create *God's Good Neighborhood*, helping our children grow as followers of Jesus who love God, and love their neighbors.

There are also special annual events, including the Advent Event and ArtRageous! These events are truly multi-generational, drawing in not only members but also many visitors each year.



## *the glorious deeds of the Lord.*

### Youth and Young Adults

\$100,120

As we have looked back this year over 75 years of Highland's history, we have seen our young people present and active throughout the life of the church.

The transition years of youth and young adult ministry are the heart of a growing and active faith community. Each week our groups come together for times of connection, community, and fun as we learn to live God's love in tangible and meaningful ways.

Whether gathering locally for serving alongside our Highland agency partners or traveling to impactful experiences like the Massanetta Middle School Conference or a weekend retreat, our youth are discovering the joy of faith in action and growing deeper in their commitment to Christ and to their faith family.

Highland's young adult ministry is also thriving and inviting in new folks to join alongside us. The group meets weekly for discussions, fellow-

ship, and hands-on service that nurtures their unique moments as adults experiencing great changes. With a focus on addressing the questions and passions of Gen Z and Millennials, this ministry builds a welcome space where young adults can connect, find encouragement, and make a difference in their world.

Through faithful partnership, we create space for these transformative ministries, and thus equip the next generation to carry forward a faith rooted in God's love.



"I was a stranger, and you welcomed me," says Jesus. This ministry of hospitality, of *making room* for one another in our lives, has ever been at the heart of our life together at Highland. From the beginning, the hospitality of *fellowship* helped Highland members connect with one another as the church came to life—and grew! Fellowship meals, square dances, Montreat retreats, meals in homes, and

more have helped the church become a family of faith.

Today, that same hospitable spirit of care and friendship draws us together in both ordinary and extraordinary seasons of life. Special Sunday fellowship meals, Meet and Eat groups, Men's and Women's Retreats at Montreat, Acoustic Café music events, Christmas caroling for homebound members, ice cream socials, birthday celebrations for our 80+ year-old members—these and more are ways by

which we seek to nurture the ties that bind us together.

Our Presbyterian Church's *Book of Order* reminds us that if there is no spirit of fellowship in the church, then little else will happen. Our worshiping, learning, and serving are never done in isolation, but always as part of the body of believers. This spirit of connectedness (referred to as *koinonia* in the New Testament) is of inestimable worth, as it feeds and sustains every other part of our church life.



*We build on foundations we did not lay.  
We drink from wells we did not dig.*





Worship is now, and ever has been, at the heart of the church's life. Our Sanctuary, constructed in 1955 and renovated in 2003, plays a central role in our lives, and in our life together. Baptisms happen here, and memorial services. Weddings are celebrated here, as are Confirmation services. The candlelight of Christmas Eve, the deep darkness of Good Friday, and the dazzling light and sound of Easter Sunday—all are celebrated in our Sanctuary.



There are also the more “ordinary” times of our life together, in which we hear the sound of children’s voices as they learn to sing their praise to God, and as they respond energetically during a moment for them. There are sermons that speak a challenging or comforting word into our lives, and the life-giving harmonies of the Chancel Choir in their stirring anthems. The sharing of the Lord’s Supper not only with one another, but with our church family around the world. Prayers that remind us of the deep connections we share with one another, and of the God who is ever at work for healing and hope. The marvelous cacophony of love and care as we share signs of Christ’s peace with one another. And in 2024, the beginning of our tradition of a *Blessing of the Animals* service.

Many of these services have been blessed by the creative work of Highland’s Arts and Worship Team, in-

cluding our Pentecost “tongues of flame” ceiling, our 75th Anniversary banners, and more.

Each of these—and all of them together—is a means by which the Living God draws near to us as we worship in ordinary and extraordinary seasons of the church’s life.

Our dollars allocated for Worship provide for this heart of the church’s common life, including staff, choir support, music, special seasonal events, and more.



*We reap from harvests we did not sow.*



In 1949, when Winston-Salem Presbytery began the process of establishing Highland, Wilson-Covington Construction Company sold to the Presbytery the two lots on which our church's buildings and parking lot now stand.

Through the years, even as the church has cared for these spaces, we have also used them!

Be it children gathering for Sunday school on our 3rd floor, an intergenerational square dance in the Fellowship Hall, adult classes in our 1st



floor rooms or the Activity Building, a congregational meal in the Fellowship Hall, Youth fellowship in youth rooms, or worship in our newly-lighted Sanctuary, Highland's spaces—both indoors and outdoors—allow for a full range of ministry.

A longstanding Highland tradition is that we also share our space and our office resources generously with community mission partners. Groups such as AA, the Association for Children of Aging Parents, iCan House, the Winston-Salem Choral Artists, NA, PFLAG, and more, benefit from Highland's support. The leadership of Salem Presbytery has also met regularly at Highland in recent years.

With increased use comes the need for ongoing maintenance, repair, and improvement, and the costs of such work are increasing as well. Highland's Property Committee is committed to the upkeep of our spaces,

recognizing that our buildings and grounds are one of the greatest resources we have to support our multifaceted ministry.

The Property budget provides for the maintenance, repair, and improvement of our church buildings, grounds, and equipment; utilities; and staff support.

We remain committed to caring for this space that enables so much good ministry to happen not only for us, but for countless others as well.

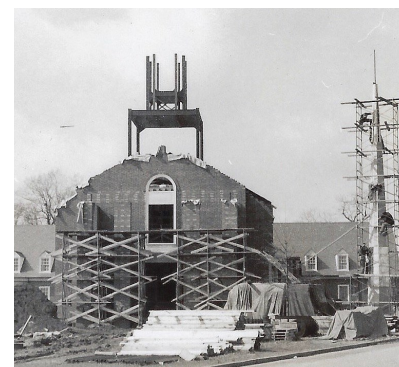


*Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
in all generations!*

## A 2.9% Increase

The 2025 Asking Budget of \$1,272,931 reflects a 2.9% increase over our budget for 2024. Most of this increase reflects the ongoing costs of inflation. This budget provides for a cost-of-living increase for the staff, and funds to enhance Highland's music ministry (a budget that has remained largely unchanged for many years). We also maintain support for the vital ministry that has characterized our life together for 75 years as we provide generous support for other parts of our program. This Asking Budget also maintains Highland's longstanding commitment to support our neighbors in need through mission partnerships in the community, presbytery, and world.

Ministry Area	2025 Request
Benevolence (24%)	\$305,197
Administration (18%)	\$229,180
Christian Education (10%)	\$135,897
Youth and Young Adult Ministry (8%)	\$100,120
Worship (14%)	\$190,126
Congregational Care/Fellowship/Membership (10%)	\$139,723
Property (15%)	\$172,688
Total	\$1,272,931





## Nurturing Our Giving—A Note from Miles Abernethy, Treasurer

Many years ago, Esther Preston led an *ArtRageous!* class on sourdough bread making. I gladly attended, and she generously gave all the participants the sourdough starter that she had been feeding for decades. I began the process of regularly feeding it the sugar, potato flakes, and water it required for years to come, yielding the delicious fruits of my labor and the energized yeast. Giving the bread away as gifts fed many people beyond my household.

When it comes to Stewardship season, the parallels are numerous. We Highlanders haven't been given a

bread starter, but we have been graced with the long, vibrant legacy of 75 years that we can feed and build upon. We do this with our time, talents, and financial contributions.

Unfortunately, I eventually stopped feeding the starter, and it died. It lacked the sustenance to thrive and grow. That is what would happen to Highland without the infusion of our annual contributions.

The fruits of this “feeding” are robust worship, a glorious music program, numerous educational offerings, youth/young adult ministry, well-

equipped facilities, a network of care, and steadfast outreach and support for our community agencies and beyond.

Jesus fed the masses with just a few loaves of bread. When we financially give to Highland, we can nourish many with the bread of life. Each element of our ministry is reflected in and inextricably linked to our budget. Our generous support sustains the fullness of Highland's ministry, enabling us to grow and thrive not only now, but for generations yet to come.

## Grow One Step!

The generosity of the saints of Highland has sustained the church's ministry for 75 years. As we look to our 76th year (and beyond!), we recognize the need for continued growth in that generosity.

The table below provides a window into ways in which that growth might take place. Your Stewardship Committee encourages you to identify the row that most closely approximates your household income. From there, identify which column is nearest to your current level of giving.

If you have not given or made a commitment before, pick a place to start! If you have been giving the same amount year-to-year, consider growing a step. If you annually increase your giving, consider using this chart to identify a new goal. The key is growth. Grow one step! This sort of generosity guided the generations who came before us at Highland, and will sustain the church for future generations as well.

Monthly Gift

	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	
Annual Income	\$10,000	\$25	\$33	\$42	\$50	\$58	\$67	\$75	\$83
	\$20,000	\$50	\$67	\$83	\$100	\$117	\$133	\$150	\$167
	\$30,000	\$75	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$175	\$200	\$225	\$250
	\$40,000	\$100	\$133	\$167	\$200	\$233	\$267	\$300	\$333
	\$50,000	\$125	\$167	\$208	\$250	\$292	\$333	\$375	\$417
	\$60,000	\$150	\$200	\$250	\$300	\$350	\$400	\$450	\$500
	\$70,000	\$175	\$233	\$292	\$350	\$408	\$467	\$525	\$583
	\$80,000	\$200	\$267	\$333	\$400	\$467	\$533	\$600	\$667
	\$90,000	\$225	\$300	\$375	\$450	\$525	\$600	\$675	\$750
	\$100,000	\$250	\$333	\$417	\$500	\$583	\$667	\$750	\$833
	\$125,000	\$313	\$417	\$521	\$625	\$729	\$833	\$938	\$1,042
	\$150,000	\$375	\$500	\$625	\$750	\$875	\$1,000	\$1,125	\$1,250
	\$175,000	\$438	\$583	\$729	\$875	\$1,021	\$1,167	\$1,313	\$1,458
	\$200,000	\$500	\$667	\$833	\$1,000	\$1,167	\$1,333	\$1,500	\$1,667
	\$300,000	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$1,750	\$2,000	\$2,250	\$2,500



## A Statement of Highland's Mission and Vision



*Winston-Salem, North Carolina*

Loving God and Serving our Neighbors as  
a Grateful • Vibrant • Connected • Responsive people  
through the *grace* of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the *love* of God, and the *fellowship* of the Holy Spirit

### HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2380 Cloverdale Avenue  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

336-724-6303  
[www.highlandpres.org](http://www.highlandpres.org)

As *grateful* people of God,  
we prayerfully shape our common life  
around corporate worship that is  
refreshingly traditional, musically alive,  
deeply biblical and joyfully  
intergenerational.

As a *vibrant* community of faith,  
we are a diverse priesthood of believers  
where inquisitive children, lively youth,  
and faithfully searching adults come  
together as we thoughtfully consider  
scripture, tradition, and what it means to  
live as God's people engaging pressing  
issues of our day.

As a *connected* fellowship of believers,  
we reach out enthusiastically with love and care.  
Rejoicing in times of celebration,  
bearing one another's burdens in times of struggle,  
we share in the wondrous workings of  
God's grace in our lives.

As a *responsive* household of faith,  
we are sent forth to bear witness to God's reconciling  
reign in our community and our world. Joining with  
Christ in his work of love, peace and justice,  
we seek to overcome the barriers that divide us,  
particularly the challenges of racism and poverty.  
Inspired by the Spirit, we share God's good gifts  
with generous and energetic commitment.

*Highland Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

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