



# Highlights

Highland Presbyterian Church  
2380 Cloverdale Avenue  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012  
Volume 60, Issue 2

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February 01, 2026

## The Season of Lent Begins

- ✦ **Ash Wednesday Service, February 18, 7:00 p.m.**
- ✦ **Lenten Daily Devotional Options Available**
- ✦ **Congregational Book Read and Discussion**

*Forgiveness*, by Marjorie J. Thompson (see details on page 15.)



## Highland's Winter Forum Welcomes John Huie Sunday, February 15, 4:00 p.m., Ardmore Room

Drawing from his life and the book, "Breaking Free: The John Huie Story" by Bill Lightle, John will share experiences growing up in segregated Albany, Georgia, in the 1940s and 1950s and how his passion for racial equality was shaped and formed. A Presbyterian youth leader who embraced Jesus's message to love one another, John gradually became alienated from the church as it failed to confront racial injustice.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Celebrating the Retirement of Joy Hohmann February 22, Celebration During Fellowship Meal Following Worship

Joy Hohmann has served as the Business Manager for Highland since the Fall of 2014. During her time with us, she has done a magnificent job not only in working with Highland's finances, but also in helping manage the care and use of our facilities. She has worked closely with both the Finance and Property Committees, and will be greatly missed by staff and members alike.

We look forward to celebrating her work with us during our Fellowship meal following worship on Sunday, February 22. We are also receiving a special offering for her as part of her retirement gift from the church. (There will be a dedicated email about this offering). Please join us as we share our deep and abiding gratitude for her ministry with us!



## **Worship at 11:00 a.m.**

### **February 8**

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

Matthew 5:1–12

Sermon: Randy Harris

Sacrament of Baptism

### **February 15**

Transfiguration Sunday

Exodus 24:12–18

Matthew 17:1–9

Sermon: Debbie Layman

### **February 22**

First Sunday in Lent

Psalm 32

Matthew 4:1–11

Sermon: Randy Harris

## **Highland Worship Online**

There are several ways to access worship:

- Click the link in the Sunday morning email;
- Go to [Highland's website](#) and find the "[Highland Worship Online](#)" page;
- Subscribe to Highland's YouTube channel where the worship videos are posted (Highland PCWS).

On our Worship Online page, there are links for the Bulletin, a virtual "Friendship Pad," as well as a virtual "offering plate."

## **Wheelchair Assistance on Sundays**

If you or a loved one need assistance on Sunday mornings to church school and/or worship via wheelchair, please contact Mike Culler, 336-413-8414, [remember-church@gmail.com](mailto:remember-church@gmail.com), no later than noon on Saturdays to make arrangements for the next day. The morning of, you would park in the Activity Building parking lot, and someone would meet you with a wheel chair.



## **Inclement Weather Policy**

As winter begins, please remember that announcements of cancellations of worship or other programs will be made through email, WXII (both on TV and [www.wxii.com](http://www.wxii.com)), and through a link on Highland's website.



Randy Harris, *Pastor*, Ext. 210,  
[rharris@highlandpres.org](mailto:rharris@highlandpres.org)

Debbie Layman, *Associate Pastor*, Ext. 212,  
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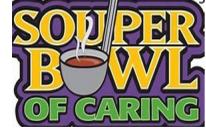
Office hours are Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

## Churchwide

### **Souper Bowl of Caring Offering, February 8**

#### **Following Worship, Wonderful Winter Meal, Fellowship Hall**

Highland's youth are gearing up for the Souper Bowl of Caring, a tradition that goes beyond football and fun to unite the community for a greater cause: fighting hunger. This year, we are supporting Samaritan Ministries and Moore School Food Pantry with non-perishable food items and donations. Our goal is to raise \$2,000 and collect 500 food items.



After worship, join us for a meal of hot soup and grilled cheese sandwiches in the Fellowship Hall. We hope the flavors and good fellowship will draw you to join us in addition to supporting our youth!

### **February Fling Fellowship Meal**

#### **Wednesday, February 11, 6:00 p.m.**

We hope you will join us for our rescheduled mid-week fellowship meal in February. The Olive Tree will cater this gathering for us, with meat and non-meat options. The cost is \$10 per person with a maximum of \$30 per household. Contact [Debbie Layman](#) if you would like to volunteer for a Fling Team (prep or clean up!). Sign up for the February 11 meal through an email or by calling the church office, 336-724-6303.



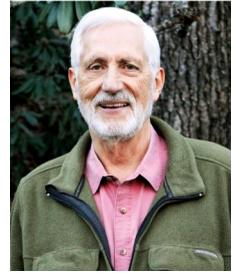
### **Winter Walk, Rescheduled for March 8, 2:00 p.m.**

Our Winter Walk will finally be here on Sunday, March 8. Mark your calendars and plan to walk Old Salem with your Highland family; your dog is welcome too! Following our walk, we will enjoy fellowship at Lot 63. We hope you will join us!



*(Continued from page 1)*

After graduating from Davidson College and serving as an artillery lieutenant in Europe, John witnessed the 1961 civil rights protests in Albany. At Emory University, he wrote his thesis on racist gubernatorial candidate Lester Maddox. In the mid-60s, John found his calling at Minnesota Outward Bound, becoming program director and embracing wilderness education's power to unite diverse groups through shared challenge. John served as executive director of North Carolina Outward Bound from 1977-1994, expanding programs throughout the South and graduating over 50,000 participants across all races and backgrounds. Today he works as a life coach for older adults and serves as a Presbyterian deacon, continuing his search for reconciliation and the end of white supremacy. John and his wife Jaan Ferree live in Asheville, where she designs labyrinths for churches and retreat centers.



Join us for this inspiring and engaging forum. Please [RSVP HERE](#) or by contacting the church office. For more information, contact [Heather Ferguson](#).

## **Appreciation for Highlanders!**

### **Gratitude for Christmas Generosity**

The spirit of giving richly flowed through Highland during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Thank you for your generosity to those in need in our community and beyond. You shared many art supplies with the children at ABC of NC (see below for their thank-you). And you donated over 70 blankets for the women of Family Services' domestic violence shelter.



Highland's giving to our denominational Christmas Joy Offering totaled \$3,850; our Christmas Eve offering supporting Crisis Control was \$2,416. And because of you we raised over \$4,225 in Alternative Giving, meaning children near and far will feel more love and support. Thank you, Highland!



### **Thanks from ABC of NC**

Thank you for all of the wonderful art supplies you donated. Our students LOVE them so much and have already started creating pictures! We are so grateful for our continued partnership and all that you continue to do for our mission. ~ Jenn Bass

## Free Wrapping Paper from Kent Reeves

Many of us were graced by handmade cards from Highland member Kent Reeves who died unexpectedly in December. As his home is being cleaned out, Highland has received many rolls of Kent's wrapping paper. We hope you will take a roll or two for your own use and gift-giving. The rolls, while supplies last, are in the Gallery Hallway.



## Lent at Highland

### Ash Wednesday

February 18, 7:00 p.m.

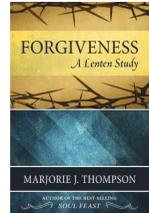
All are welcome for this service of prayer, confession, and song. The imposition of ashes will be offered for those who desire.



## Lenten Book Study

February 22-March 29

*FORGIVENESS: A Lenten Study*, by Marjorie Thompson will be the focus of our all-church Lenten Book Study. To learn more about our Lent Study, please read the full class description on page 15.



## Easter Lily Orders Due by March 29

If you wish to order one or more lilies for Easter Sunday, they are \$16 each. Please fill out this form and return with a check to the box in Gidget's office, or mail the order and your check to Highland, 2380 Cloverdale Ave., 27103. **Payment must accompany the order and must be received by Sunday, March 29.** Please make checks payable to HPC. [Order online](#). Thank you!



I / We would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ plant(s). Amount of check \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to be given in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to be given in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Deliver to Homebound? Yes or No

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

## ♥ Service Opportunities

### 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 or shelf-stable milk**.



### Our Lady of Salem Shelter for Women St. Timothy's through March 1

Thank you to many faithful Highlanders who have provided meals, to-go bags, hospitality, and time to the overflow women's shelter again this year. Because many people volunteer extra during the season of giving and then take a break in the new year, sign-ups for the shelter support have many open spots in the coming weeks and months. Please prayerfully consider how you can help and sign up for a meal team, a hospitality / check-in shift, or snack / to-go bags. You can sign up now by visiting the [Support Our Unhoused Neighbors page](#) of our website. Thank you for your prayerful support and your practical support as we work with our unhoused neighbors in need.



Our Lady of Salem  
SHELTER FOR WOMEN  
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

### Joy for Our February Birthdays!

- |                    |                        |                      |                           |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Theo Xu          | 6 Alta Brown           | 16 Daphne Davis      | 23 Austin Foster          |
| 2 Jim Bass         | 6 Daniela Miller       | 16 Michael Schmidt   | 23 Justin Plaisted        |
| 2 Missy Carroll    | 7 Debbie Lafferty      | 17 Kevin Davie       | 24 Karlen Boring          |
| 2 Phyllis Clemmer  | 8 Robin Spainhour      | 17 Jay Jordan        | 24 Alice Bragg            |
| 2 Kyle Hansen      | 9 Stacy Pitcairn       | 18 Olive Wagoner     | 24 Charlotte Grace Murray |
| 2 Lori Murray      | 10 Susan Bowers        | 20 Sienna Lambert    | 25 Heidi Gillis           |
| 3 Sydney Cannon    | 10 Chris Gottfried     | 20 Zach Scott        | 26 Pam Hunt               |
| 3 Ross Davis       | 10 Bruce Healy         | 20 Julia Switzer     | 26 David McCall           |
| 3 Jim Middleton    | 10 Brian Mendenhall    | 21 Pam Pepper        | 26 Judy Pozniak           |
| 3 Russell Plaisted | 11 Royce Thompson      | 21 Rich Smith        | 27 Becky Burke            |
| 3 Carla Romere     | 12 Chad Archer         | 21 Jan White         | 27 Loyd Elder             |
| 3 Rhenda Steele    | 12 Worth Byers         | 22 Wilson Campbell   |                           |
| 5 Mike Brown       | 13 Christina Heidtmann | 22 Gracen Pike-Werte |                           |
| 5 Susan Doughton   | 13 Joy Hohmann         | 23 Beth Barksdale    |                           |
| 5 Sara Herter      | 15 Carol Eickmeyer     | 23 Kit Broadhurst    |                           |



## News and Notes

**In Our Prayers:** *Mac Smyth*, Salemtowne Rehab; *Nash Lindsey*, The Oaks Rehab; *Elaine Patterson*, Forsyth; *Curtis Patterson*, Salemtowne Respite Care; *Anne Dowell*, Home; *Janice McBride*, Home; *Jim Womble*, Hospice at Home; *Jerry Cole*, Assisted Living at Arbor Acres; *Emelda Lawing*, Hospice at Home; *Pierce Johnson*, Home; *Bill Lambert*, Home; *Parks Berryhill*, Salemtowne Healthcare; *Esther and Les Preston*, Home; *John Anderson*, Salemtowne Healthcare; *Ruth Banbury*, Carriage Club Assisted Living.

**Thank you** to everyone that sent cards, emails, visited and sent texts to myself and to my stepfather, Andy Tyson, during my mother's time in Hospice and in the wake of her passing. It means the world to us. ~ With gratitude, Kathryn Michel

**Congratulations** to Tory and Brian Daniel on the birth of their daughter, Caroline Bond, January 15.

### In Memoriam:

- ✠ Alex Pozniak, January 24, husband of Judy Pozniak.
- ✠ Gary Simes, January 30

**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.

## Hunger Offering

On **March 1**, don't forget to bring your gifts for our monthly Hunger Offering: pasta sauce for Crisis Control and your 5 Cents a Meal for our Presbytery! Thank you for your donations supporting neighbors who hunger in our community and around the world.



FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 8, please pray for Matt, Kate and Teddy Brandon; Robbie Grier; Rich, Joyce, and Richmond Griner; Kyle, Kathleen and Mitchell Hansen; Dave and Berrilynn Norman; Morgan, Stephen and Kimberly Parker; Stacy Pitcairn and Gray Kinnear; Philip and Roberta Powell; Les and Esther Preston; Mac and Mary Ellen Smyth.

FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15, please pray for Karen Copeland; Thomas Dominick; Wendy Guerry; Jon, Laurie, Theo and Lewyn McKinney; Lynn and Marty McGowan; Dom, Elizabeth and Amelia Veconi; Steve, Dianne, Owen and Olivia Searce; Sandy Simmons; Maggie Strickland and Sara Herter; Dick and Susie York.

FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, please pray for Jay and Betty Dominick; Rita Ennis; Mary Kay Eberle; Greg and Sandi Hall; Steve and Joyce Hansel; Henry and Susan Heidtmann; Bob Holmes; Ginny Mei; Linda Schroeder; Charlie and Sandy Scott; James, Melissa, Max and Julia Switzer; Elizabeth Vance. *The Lord bless you and keep you. Numbers 6:24*



## Children

### Children's Sunday Mornings

#### Sunday School for Children at Highland (9:30–10:45 a.m., 3rd Floor) Preschoolers (2–4 Years) Growing in Grace & Gratitude (9:30–10:15)

We share stories of love, grace and gratitude through music, story time, and activities that stretch children's hearts and minds. We also teach about God's love when we surround children with loving adults. This is the goal of our preschool teaching team as well as church staff and pastors. Your preschoolers will love **Growing in Grace & Gratitude!**

#### Elementary Ages (K–4th Grade)—Godly Play & Neighborhood

**Workshops (9:30–10:15 a.m.)** Over a two week rotation, children will experience the a biblical story beginning in Godly Play. Every other week the children will move to a different workshop to experience the same story from a different perspective through things like Art, Drama, Cooking, and Mission, even a Cinema. *God's Good Neighborhood* is the place where children and leaders grow in faith and understanding of what it means to be the people of God.

#### All Children—Highland's Children's Choir (10:15–10:45 a.m.)

Following 45 minutes of Sunday School, children of all ages will head to the Children's Choir Room where they are joined by Haley Chapman, Highland's Children's Choir Director. This room is also located on the 3rd floor. The Children's Choir sings in worship periodically to share their love for God and love for music. Contact [Haley Chapman](#) for more information.

### 4th Friday Fun Night, February 27

#### Friday, February 27, 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Mark you calendar today for the next 4th Friday Family Fun Night at Highland when parents can drop children off and enjoy the evening with Highland friends or running errands.

In Highland style we will have tasty food, fun games and activities, surprises around each corner, and friends are always welcome!

Contact [Heather Ferguson](#) for more information.



## Youth

### **Youth Fellowship**

#### **Souper Bowl Offering Season Is Here!**

##### **February 8**

It's time to get in position for our big day! Teams for the offering, worship leadership, and cook teams are being formed now. Make sure to plan on arriving by 9:30 a.m. to be at the ready for hosting both lunch and the offering.

##### **Pancake Palooza, February 15**

**Middle School Youth, 4:00–5:00 p.m.**

**Senior High Youth 5:00–6:00 p.m.**

Kick off the season of Lent with a pancake feast! Get creative with pancake art, enjoy delicious bites, and chat about Lenten practices as we prepare for Ash Wednesday.

##### **Lunch Out, February 22**

Meet for lunch out at Moe's following worship.

##### **Summer Trip Sign Ups, Montreat Youth Conference June 7–13**

Current 8th through 12th grade in high school: A week where young people are affirmed in who they are and who God is calling them to be. It's a week centered on worship, community, and honest faith where youth are reminded they are deeply loved, they belong, and their faith matters.

##### **Massanetta Middle School Conference July 14–17**

Current 5th through 8th grades: Join a life-giving week where hundreds of middle schoolers gather each summer. We'll share gatherings designed just for middlers, including worship, games, workshops, and small groups led by high school Advocates.

## Young Adults

### **Young Adult Ministry**

#### **Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.**

Our ministry meets weekly in a variety of locations. We gather for fellowship, study, and faithful conversation. Contact Courtney Stevens for more information, [cstevens@highlandpres.org](mailto:cstevens@highlandpres.org)).

**February 5 at Footnote: Faith and the Games:** A reflective night connecting the Olympics with faith, calling, perseverance, and rest;

**February 12 in the Parlor: Palentine Night:** A cozy, playful evening of affirmation notes, cards, chocolate, and good company;

**February 19 at Courtney's, Olympics Watch Night:** Women's figure skating final with snacks and fun;

**February 26 at Radar Brewing:** Scripture and conversation

## Adults

### Coffee & Conversation Tuesdays

On Tuesdays, Randy, Debbie, Courtney, or Heather will be hanging out for the cold months at the Bagel Station (129 Oakwood Drive), from 10:00 -11:00 a.m. for conversation with whomever shows up. This is a fun and varied group, and the conversation is always interesting. We hope you will stop by to check-in with your staff and meet other Highlanders.



### Faith & Film: *The Princess Bride*

**February 9, 7:00 p.m., The Sherwood Restaurant**

Join us for this monthly gathering as we reflect on the visual parables of movies. Our movie for February is *The Princess Bride*. It is available to stream on Netflix. Contact [Randy Harris](#) for more information.



### Men's Breakfast

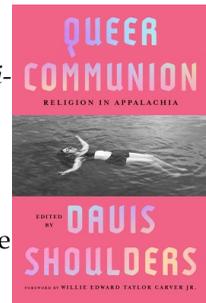
**February 18, 7:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

Join with the Men of the Church for a time of fellowship and study. Look for an email with details, and email [Randy Harris](#) if you have questions.



### LGBTQ Book Group, Spring Study

For our next LGBTQ book study, we have chosen *Queer Communion: Religion in Appalachia*, by Davis Shoulders. Our group will gather on March 22 and April 19 at 4:00 p.m. in the Ardmore Room to discuss this beautifully written collection of twelve essays, poems, and stories that follows and fractures the expectations surrounding LGBTQIA+ Appalachians and their religious beliefs. Gathered by Davis Shoulders, the pieces delve into themes of chosen family, loss, congregation, and alternative expressions of faith. Set against the backdrop of Christian cultural mores and a region considered to be deeply pious, these writings offer diverse perspectives on religion, queerness, and growth. *Queer Communion* explores everything from the joy and excitement of worship to the complexities of navigating one's queerness and spiritual convictions in oppressive environments.

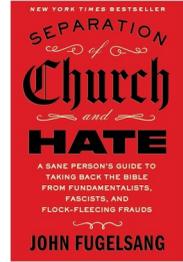


Copies are available through Bookmarks. You will receive 20% off when you tell them at the time of your order you are with the Bookmarks' Book Club program. Contact [Debbie Layman](#) with questions or to sign up.

## Matthew 25 Book Group

### ***Separation of Church and Hate* by John Fugelsang**

Our Matthew 25 Book Group will meet on Monday, February 16 to finish our current read, *Separation of Church and Hate* by John Fugelsang. Fugelsang is the son of a former nun and a former priest and in the book challenges fundamentalists who selectively cherry-pick and misquote Bible verses out of context, urging them to read scripture fully and understand the true relevance of those passages to Christ's message.



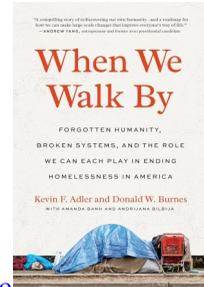
You will receive 20% off when ordering through Bookmarks if you tell them you are with a Highland book club when you order. Contact [Debbie Layman](#) with questions.

## Poverty Book Group

### ***When We Walk By*, by Kevin Adler and Donald Burnes**

Our Poverty Book Group will gather on Monday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. to conclude our discussion of *When We Walk By*. Ruth Cole Burcaw will be our guest as we continue to grapple with how we can make a difference in the lives of our unhoused neighbors.

We hope you will consider joining us for our next book read (book, tba); our discussions will be Mondays, March 23 and April 27. Contact [Debbie Layman](#) if you have questions.



## Journeying Together in Faith

### **1st & 3rd Thursdays, 4:00–5:00 p.m., Highland's Chapel**

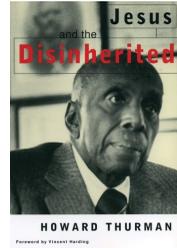
Last summer, a group of folks gathered on Sunday morning and called themselves "The Bookless-Leaderless Book Group." The conversation was filled with insights and laughter and quickly moved to some of the more serious topics of the faith journey.

If you are interested in this type of faith-forming conversation with other sojourners, please join us. If you would like more information, you can contact [John Woodmansee](#) or [Heather Ferguson](#).



## Listening to Black Voices Book Group

Join us via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. February 17 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 the second half (chapter three through the end) of *Jesus and the Disinherited*, by Howard Thurman. If you are interested, please contact [Randy Harris](#).



## Lamentations and Laughter

**Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m., Activity Building, Room AB 5**

Lamentations and Laughter is a men's weekly gathering to focus on the positives in life, even during challenging and difficult periods. The idea behind Lamentations and Laughter is to encourage paying attention to one another, to share and be heard, and to listen. All are invited and encouraged to attend! If you have questions, contact [John Woodmansee](#).



## Highland Ukuleles

**Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., Room 126**

Life is definitely more enjoyable with a ukulele! Come and join us for some fun, regardless of your age or skill level. If you don't have a ukulele, let Heather Ferguson know and we can arrange for you to borrow one. We're all learning and having a great time together. For more details, please contact [Heather Ferguson](#).



## Highland Mum's Night Out

**March 1 at the Home of Pam Webb**

Mum's Night Out is a monthly evening of making connections, enjoying tasty snacks, sharing "Mum" insights, and building a circle of support and friendship among other Highland Mums. Whether you are expecting your first child, getting ready to send your little one to 1st Grade, or savoring that last year of high school, this gathering is for you!



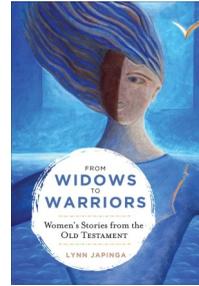
Please plan to join us on Sunday, March 1, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Pam Webb, 711 Friar Tuck Road. For more information, contact [Heather Ferguson](#) and let her know if you would like to host an evening with Highland Mums in your home.

## Thursday Morning Women's Study

10:00–11:30 a.m., Ardmore Room

### Women's Stories from the Old Testament

For too long the women of the Bible have been depicted in one-dimensional terms. On one side are saints, such as Mary, while on the other are "bad girls," such as Eve and Jezebel. Just as often, the female characters of the Bible are simply ignored. However, the women of the Bible are complex, multidimensional individuals whose lives are inspiring, funny, and tragic in ways too many of us never hear.



In the book *From Widows to Warriors* scholar Lynn Japinga acquaints us with the women of the Old Testament. From flawed heroes like Ruth and Rahab, to fierce fighters like Deborah and Jael, to tragic characters like Jephthah's daughter and the unnamed concubine of the book of Judges, readers will encounter a wealth of foremothers in the faith in all their messy, yet redeemable, humanity. If you are looking for a Bible study group that will fill a longing for wisdom, friendship, and prayer partners, please join us!

## Men's and Women's Montreat Retreats

Highland's retreats provide much needed time to get-away and 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.



### Women's Retreat, April 10–12

To reserve your spot for the Women's Retreat, call the church office and ask Gidget to sign you up, 336-724-6303, by clicking [HERE](#) or contacting [Heather Ferguson](#).

### Men's Retreat, April 24–26

To reserve your spot for the Men's Retreat, contact [Jim Swing](#) or click [HERE](#).

Retreats will be located at the Reynolds Lodge at Montreat Conference Center beginning on the Friday evening before dinner and concluding on the Sunday morning after worship. The lodge has 16 rooms with two single beds in each room. More details for both of these retreats will be coming soon, but we hope you will mark your calendar, and let us know that you plan to join us!

# **Adult Christian Education** **Sunday Mornings, 9:30 a.m.**

## **The Present Word Class, Room 124 and Zoom**

All are invited to share in the Present Word Sunday School Class where our goal is to:

- ◆ Explore the Bible as the primary source for understanding our Christian faith and the changing needs of the church;
- ◆ Respond in faith and love to God's love as revealed in Jesus Christ;
- ◆ Confront the concerns of the gospel to include our personal faith, values, relationships, and social responsibilities.

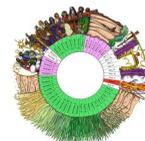


This quarter our lessons focus on reviewing the beliefs of our Christian faith. "Our Holy (Trinitarian) God and the Holy Scriptures," "Grace and Reconciliation," and "The Church and its Teachings." The writer for this quarter's curriculum is Julie Hester.

*Facilitators: A Wide Variety of Class Members and Guests from the Congregation*

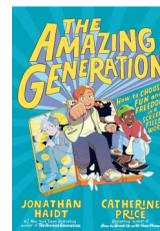
## **The Lectionary Café** **Salem Room**

The *Lectionary Café* is a warm, 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*



## **Parents' Conversation and Coffee** **Room 126**

After getting children settled into their classes, parents are invited to gather in Room 126 on the first floor for coffee and conversation. We are currently exploring the themes of Jonathan Haidt's book, *The Anxious Generation*, through his subsequent book, *The Amazing Generation*. This book is written for tweens and teens and is relevant whether or not they already have smartphones or social media accounts. This engaging guide is packed with surprising facts, a graphic novel, interactive challenges, secrets that tech leaders don't want kids to know, and real-life anecdotes from young adults who regret getting smartphones at a young age and want to help the next generation avoid making the same mistakes. This book is also a bold, optimistic, and practical guide to growing into your most authentic, confident, and adventurous self. Readers won't just discover how to avoid becoming the next Anxious Generation. They'll learn how to become *amazing*. Join us for this group led discussion. Books are available in the Gallery Hall for \$10.



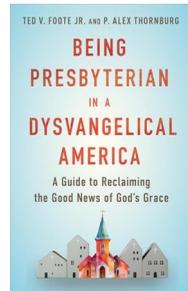
## Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America: Reclaiming the Good News of God's Grace, Ardmore Room

"Dysvangelical" describes a distorted theology that twists the good news of God's grace into a message of fear and exclusion. Are you disillusioned by how Christianity is being used in America today? Many faithful Christians find their beliefs don't align with the shouted chants and disturbing actions of those claiming to represent true Christianity.

With clarity, compassion, and humor, this study will equip participants to name what feels wrong, rediscover what is right, and live into a gospel that is still good news for all.

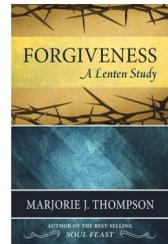
This time together will provide an accessible, faithful alternative to Christian nationalism, rooted in core Presbyterian convictions: grace, community, humility, and ongoing reform. This is the message for our time — not fear and exclusion, but a living, evolving faith proclaiming God's wide welcome.

All are welcome to join this dynamic and challenging study. A few books are still available in the Gallery Hall for \$15. *Facilitators: Randy Harris and Joe Blankinship*



## Lenten Congregational Book Discussion

Join us February 22 through March 29 (Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in-person or Wednesdays at noon in person or via Zoom) as we read and discuss *Forgiveness: A Lenten Study* by Marjorie Thompson. Forgiving others and humbly asking for forgiveness are central disciplines for all Christian believers. Lent, a time to reflect on our Christian journey, is an appropriate time to deepen our understanding and practice of forgiveness. Together we will take a close look at our understanding of forgiveness in this encouraging study. Thompson helps us address such questions as:



- ◆ Is forgiveness a Christian duty under all circumstances? Or are there situations when Christians do not need to forgive?
- ◆ Is forgiveness a matter between individuals, or is it meaningful only in the context of communities?
- ◆ Is forgiving the best route to healing for the injured?
- ◆ How do we get past emotional barriers to real forgiveness?

With clarity, insight, and sensitivity, this study will guide us in examining both our ability to forgive and our own need for forgiveness.

Books are available for purchase in the Gallery Hall for \$15.

## **Community and Global Service**

### **Climate Corner**

The Presbyterian Hunger Program (one of the recipients of our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering) provides a daily Lenten devotional each year titled *Tread Lightly for Lent*. This resource offers daily actions which are intended to create more mindful behaviors throughout the year.



As people of faith, we seek to ‘serve and preserve’ God’s world. However, some of our collective choices have led to a changing global climate. To turn this tide, we must commit to treading lightly on God’s Earth.

Lent is the time to reflect on Christ’s ministry, death, and resurrection. We slow down, take time, and examine our internal spiritual lives and the way we live out our Christian faith in the world around us.

Below are some of the daily actions in the calendar. We hope you will pick a copy up for your devotional use as Lent begins.

- ✦ Challenge yourself to drink only water today. It takes 600 cups of water to produce a single cup of coffee, and 125 cups of water to produce a cup of tea.
- ✦ Carry or write down every item of trash you generate today. Challenge yourself to reduce the trash you produce for the remaining days of Lent.
- ✦ Take a walk to appreciate the Earth’s natural beauty. Consider why preserving the Earth is crucial for the health of future generations, and tell two people.
- ✦ Take time to write or call an elected official about climate change or another creation care issue.