



# Highlights

Highland Presbyterian Church  
2380 Cloverdale Avenue  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012  
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www.highlandpres.org  
May 03, 2026

## Highland's Spring Forum, May 3, 4:00 p.m.

### Christian Nationalism or Religious Liberty: An American Dilemma



As our Sunday morning class continues to explore *How to End Christian Nationalism*, our Spring Forum will feature Bill J. Leonard, who has studied this topic for decades.

Bill is the founding dean and Professor of Divinity Emeritus at Wake Forest University. He is the author or editor of more than 25 books including titles: *Baptist Ways: A History*, *A Sense of the Heart: Christian Religious Experience in the United States*, and most recently, *Appalachian Mountain Christianity: The Spirituality of Otherness*.

What exactly is Christian nationalism – and why does it matter? Leonard's discussion breaks down what the term really means and explores the wide range of Christian voices that have weighed in on it, both today and throughout American history. We will walk through three key approaches to religious liberty – separationist, accommodationist, and dissenting – and see how they have played out over time. No matter where you are coming from, there is room at the table for you in this conversation.

This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to Highland!

## Highland's Summer Worship Schedule

### 10:00 a.m., Sundays, May 24–September 6

Beginning on May 24 of Memorial Day weekend, Sunday worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. Our Present Word Sunday School will continue throughout the summer, meeting at 9:00 a.m. All other Christian Education classes will resume on September 13.



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

### **May 3**

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16  
1 Peter 2:4–10

Sermon: Randy Harris  
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### **May 10**

Sixth Sunday of Easter  
John 14:15–21  
1 Peter 3:13–22

Sermon: Randy Harris

### **May 17**

Ascension Sunday  
Psalm 47  
Acts 1:1–11

Sermon: Randy Harris

## **Worship at 10:00 a.m.**

### **May 24**

10:00 a.m. Worship  
Pentecost Sunday  
Acts 2:1–21

1 Corinthians 12:4–13  
Sermon: Debbie Layman

### **May 31**

Trinity Sunday  
1 Corinthians 13:11–13  
Genesis 1:1–2:4a

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 will park in the Activity Building parking lot, and someone will meet you with a wheel chair.

**Sunday Parking:** Please do not park on Cloverdale Avenue on Sunday mornings unless you have limited mobility. We need these spaces for Highland's many folks who have mobility issues. We appreciate your willingness to be hospitable.

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

Debbie Layman, *Associate Pastor*, Ext. 212,  
[dlayman@highlandpres.org](mailto:dlayman@highlandpres.org)

Courtney Stevens, *Associate Pastor* Ext. 218,  
[cstevens@highlandpres.org](mailto:cstevens@highlandpres.org)

Heather Ferguson, *Director of Christian Education*, Ext. 204,  
[hferguson@highlandpres.org](mailto:hferguson@highlandpres.org)

Chris Gilliam, *Director of Music*, Ext. 202,  
[cgilliam@highlandpres.org](mailto:cgilliam@highlandpres.org)

Susan Bates, *Organist*, Ext. 202,  
[sbates@highlandpres.org](mailto:sbates@highlandpres.org)

Haley Chapman, *Music Associate*, Ext. 202,  
[hchapman@highlandpres.org](mailto:hchapman@highlandpres.org)

Deborah Trawick,  
*Business Administrator*, Ext.

205, [dtrawick@highlandpres.org](mailto:dtrawick@highlandpres.org)

Gidget Payne,

*Administrative Coordinator*, Ext.  
201, [gpayne@highlandpres.org](mailto:gpayne@highlandpres.org)

Office hours are Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

## Churchwide

### Sign Up for Directory Photos

This is the time for our new church directory photos, and we hope you will sign up! Our photography sessions will be May 7–9 and May 11–12. Each household photographed will receive a free copy of the directory and an 8X10 portrait at no cost. You will also have an option to view your proofs and purchase extra portraits as well, but *a purchase is not required* to be included in the directory. [Sign up here](#), through a link in your emails, through the QR code in the bulletin, or by contacting [Gidget Payne](#), 336-724-6303.



### May Fling Fellowship Meal

**Wednesday, May 6, 6:00 p.m.**

We hope you will join us for our final mid-week fellowship meal of the season, May 6. Highland member and chef Matt Brandon will lead the team. We will offer both a meat and non-meat option. 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 meal through an email or by calling the church office, 336-724-6303.



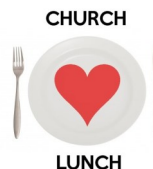
### Food Pantry Film Following Fling

On Wednesday, May 6, following our Fling Fellowship Meal, all are invited to watch the premiere of the film, *We Are Moore Together*. We will gather in the Ardmore Room at 7:00 p.m. for this film which was made locally and is about the Moore School Food Pantry which we share with Temple Emanuel and Moore Magnet. The film is 40 minutes and is informative and inspiring! No reservation is needed if you are just coming for the film at 7:00 p.m.



### Congregational Lunch, May 17

We hope you will join us for our next congregational lunch following worship on May 17. Our meal will be catered by Mama Zoe Michaels with meal options of marinated chicken strips with sides of country green beans, rosemary roasted potatoes and a roll; or a red, white and blue salad platter with lettuce, strawberries, blueberries, walnuts, optional blue cheese, and raspberry walnut vinaigrette. Dessert will be cake celebrating our Confirmands! The cost is \$10 per person with a maximum of \$30 per household. Sign up soon!



## Canoe/Kayak Adventure Coming

We have reserved some kayaks and canoes through The Dan River Company for Saturday, May 30 for a Highland family adventure! The day trip will be their 6.2 mile standard trip, which they say is perfect for beginners and a delight for all skill levels. We will begin with a paddle through the Hammer-Stern Wilderness Preserve and end with a spectacular paddle through a 1 mile section at Hanging Rock State Park along the Dan River Bluffs. Watch for details of cost, timing, and signups. We hope you will join us for this adventure in God's gorgeous creation!



## Pride Festival, Saturday, June 13

Highland will once again be participating in Winston-Salem's annual PRIDE Festival. Last year we had a booth which was such a joy to plan and to share with the community. We would love for your help in planning the booth this year and for your participation as we walk in the parade. Contact [Debbie Layman](#) with interest, and watch for more information in the weeks to come!

## Community Assembly on June 14

Highland will be participating in a community assembly on Sunday afternoon, June 14 with area congregations, neighborhood groups, and concerned citizens who will gather around issues of affordable housing, mental health, and education. The group hosting the assembly, the Forsyth Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), is a multi-racial, non-partisan community organization which focuses on building relationships, developing leaders, and organizing for systemic change. We will share more details as we put our group together. We hope you will consider joining us as we join our neighbors!



## ArtRageous Is on the Horizon!

### So, What Does that Mean?

We believe in a creating God, and that we who are made in God's image share in God's creative work. ArtRageous! is a celebration of this creativity. Classes in cooking, music, sewing, growing, writing, singing, tours, and so much more will be part of the line up. Our dates this year will be June 22-25. We are building our lineup for the 2026 Artra-geous. Contact [Heather Ferguson](#) if you would like to teach a class or have an idea for a class or tour. This summer art program is open to children, youth, and adults. On-line registration will begin soon. Plan to look over the classes and sessions offered, and register early. Please invite friends, family, and neighbors to join us for a celebration of God's gifts in the arts.



## ♥ 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 **May**, we are asking for donations of **rice**.



### Hunger Offering

On **May 3**, 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.



### Collecting Hygiene Kits

Help us make hygiene kits to resupply the warehouses for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Church World Service after the devastating impacts from recent floods out west and wildfires. The items needed are: washcloths, nail clippers, bars of soap, wide tooth combs, individual toothbrushes, travel size deodorant, travel size lotion, travel size shampoo, and travel size toothpaste. Please purchase these after you have signed up so we can have the same number of each item! Our collection runs through May 10. We will need your help compiling the kits following our congregational lunch on Sunday, May 17. [Sign up here](#). We appreciate your generosity.



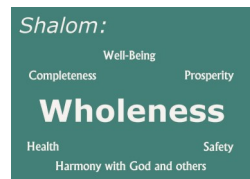
### Diaper Drive Begins Mother's Day

Our Diaper Drive for The Shalom Project and Clemmons Food Pantry runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day, May 10–June 14. You may drop them off any time the church is open. We will accept diapers (any size, including adult) in opened or unopened packages, and wipes. Thank you for supporting caregivers and kids in need in our community!



### Flourish Meal Helpers Needed

We are looking for a few people to work together to provide a meal for 30 women and children on Monday May 11 for Flourish, a program of The Shalom Project. Contact [Laurie McKinney](#) if able to help.





## **Pentecost Offering on May 24**

### **Supporting At-Risk Kids in Our Community and Beyond**

Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we receive the Pentecost Offering, one of the special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

This year the portion of the offering we will share in our community will be to support Project HOPE, Families in Transition of our Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools. This project is dedicated to ensuring that all children and young people experiencing homelessness have access to the educational services to which they are entitled under the federal McKinney-Vento Act. Thank you for your generous support of the Pentecost Offering!

### **Ordination of Beth Barksdale**

With deep joy we celebrate the upcoming ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament of Beth Barksdale to Ordained Validated Ministry as Chaplain at Chatham Hall School in the Presbytery of the Peaks on May 22.



A longtime member of Highland and under the care of our Session, Beth's ministry reflects a life shaped by faith, community, and the witness of those who have gone before her. In her own words: "I pray daily that I will lead with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love. Thank you, Frederick Buechner, thank you Salem Presbytery, thank you Highland, and thank you to the generations of Presbyterians who have shaped, guided and taught me what it means to be a child of God." If you see Beth, extend congratulations to her!

### **Help Us Spread Sunshine This Summer**

The Congregational Care Committee and the Lamentations and Laughter group invite you to join them this summer in Spreading Sunshine! This initiative will focus on in-person visits with Highland members who are not able to get to Highland at this time. We will have a brief training, sharing 'best tips,' on Sunday, May 31 following worship. The goal will be simple – to brighten someone's day by sharing love from God and from our Highland family. We know that spreading love and cheer is beneficial for the receiver and also for the giver. Join us as we love and grow together as a family spreading sunshine and love! Reach out to [Debbie Layman](#) if you are interested and watch for a sign up.



## News and Notes

**In Our Prayers:** *Mac Smyth*, Home; *Les and Esther Preston*, Salemtowne; *Nash Lindsey*, Home; *Jim Womble*, Hospice at the VA in Salisbury; *Jim and Lucy Lancaster*, Home; *Jerry Cole*, Assisted Living at Arbor Acres; *Emelda Lawing*, Hospice at Home; *Rich and Connie Smith*, Home; *Parks Berryhill*, Salemtowne Healthcare; *Bill Lambert*, Home; *Esther Preston*, Home; *John Anderson*, Salemtowne Healthcare; *Ruth Banbury*, Carriage Club Assisted Living.

**Dear Highland family**, when Pierce and I moved to Winston-Salem almost ten years ago, you made us feel welcome from day one...even before we made the decision to join the church. Being quite old when we moved, we knew we could not participate in church activities on the same level as we had always done before. But we have supported financially what we could not support with our physical presence. Pierce's Parkinson's disease put limitations on both of us but we were blessed by being able to attend church when the weather was good and worship at home via YouTube when it was not. You sent Pierce flowers and cards, came to visit in the hospital and rehab; you called and sang happy birthday and now you have done the same for me in my grief. I am blessed to be one of you. ~ Thank you, Nancy Johnson

**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 MAY 3, please pray for Lauren Bain and David Harris; Kyle, Daphne, Cecilia and Lucy Davis; Ethie Edwards; Bruce and Carol Healy; Dawn, Kenneth, Audrey and Reece Nelson; Mark and Barbara Whitley.

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 10, please pray for Esther Buzzard; Sarah, David, Oliver and Henry Chandler; Alison, Jeff, Will and Ben Gardner; Curt and Pat Hege; Emily, Carter and Rosalie Richey; Mike Serosky; Don and Linda Thorup.

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 17, please pray for Chad Archer, Brittany Puckett, Maxwell, Banks and Penelope Archer; Jerry and Leslie Greene; Henry, Julie and Christina Heidtmann; Terry and Sarah Mixon; Stephan Reavis and Eddie Draughn; Dillon Robertson; Cathy Shaffner.

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 24, please pray for Ruth Banbury; Brian, Mary, Mary Douglas and Caroline Mendenhall; Don and Sandra Mikush; Lew and Nancy Nelson; Ed and Emily Parker; Vance and Pam Pepper; Jay and Diane Plaisted; Ed and Margret Sehon.

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 31, please pray for Mitch, Tina, Will and Julia Batson; Mike, Becky and Aidyn Burke; Ben, Andrea, Evan and Grayson Morgan; Alex Neely; Turner, Sarah, Sophie and Isabelle Simpson. *The Lord bless you and keep you. Numbers 6:24*



# Joy for Our May Birthdays!

1 Susan Bates	6 Sara Smith	16 Katie Vasquez	26 Sandi Hall
1 Anna Jane Campbell	6 Benton Williams	17 Rick Grogan	26 Scott Tuttle
1 Grace Gottfried	8 Lyn Hux	17 Lindsay Hunt	27 Cate Marler Barksdale
1 Alexa Lane	8 Catie McElwee	17 Wendell Schollander	27 David Havens
1 Rebecca Schwartz	9 Janice Howerton	17 Elizabeth Vance	27 Henry Heidtmann, IV
1 Scott Templeton	10 Rita Ennis	18 Bob Hannah	27 Henry Tysinger
1 Randall Tuttle	10 Jean Swanson	18 Bob Laws	28 Sara Taylor
2 Miriam Preston Davie	11 Spencer Ayscue	19 Doug Turner	30 Scott Walker
2 Caroline Skinner	11 Elaine Minton	20 Nancy Wolfe	31 Joe Holbrook
3 Ethie Edwards	11 Haley Rippey	21 Parks Berryhill	31 Alex Patton
3 Erik Schultz	12 Ann Dixon-Coppage	21 Kathleen Hansen	31 Margo Searls-Begy
3 Ben Sodko	12 Susan Linker	21 Jess Kirkman	31 Cathy Shaffner
5 Evie Holland	12 Laurie McKinney	22 Pat Kirkman	
6 Kathy Black	12 Carter Richey	22 Carson Tuttle	
6 Jamie Blankinship	14 Sean Halstead	23 Sophie Simpson	
6 Rebecca Maddux	15 Lewyn McKinney	24 Melissa Fisch	
6 Mary Pace	16 Lauren Eberle	24 Jean Fortner	
6 John Paterson	16 David Neely	26 Mitch Batson	



## Special May Birthday Wishes to:

- \* Ethie Edwards, as she turns 90 on May 3
- \* Nancy Wolfe, as she turns 93 on May 20
- \* Parks Berryhill, as he turns 100 on May 21
- \* Sara Taylor, as she turns 94 on May 28

## Children

### **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 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, May 22**

**Friday, May 22, 5:30–7:30 p.m.**

Mark your calendar today for the last 4th Friday Family Fun Night for the season. Highland parents can drop children off and enjoy the evening with other Highland friends or running errands.



Our children had such a great time at our April “Bring A Friends” gathering. We had music, games and a Taco Bar. We also had a great beginning of the evening out on the playground. Though May 22 will be our last gathering before the summer break, keep an eye out for summer fun on the playground to come.



Remember, friends are always welcome. The only thing that can make our evening even more fun is to have more friends to share it with. Be sure to have friends fill out a Medical Release Form.

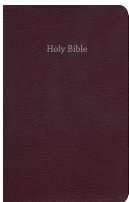
Contact [Heather Ferguson](#) for the link. In Highland style we will have tasty food, fun games and activities, surprises around each corner!

## **Confirmation Sunday May 17**

We rejoice as members of our church family take an important step in their faith journey through Confirmation! Parker Bragg, Robert Davis, Grace Gottfried, and Tori Patton spent this year learning, growing, and deepening their connection with God. As a church, we are dedicated to walking alongside them, offering love, guidance, and support every step of the way. Join us for this special service and celebrate what God is doing in their lives and in our community.



## **Highland’s 3rd-4th Graders to Receive Bibles**



As Presbyterians, we believe that the Bible is one of the most important ways in which God communicates with us today. We can listen for God’s word in the familiar stories that we all know and we can also learn more about God in the stories that may be new to us. On Sunday, May 17 during the worship service, our 3rd and 4th graders will receive personalized Bibles that they can read and study for many years to come.

# Youth

## Celebrating Our Graduates

### Sunday, June 6

As we near graduation season, Highland is getting ready to celebrate the achievements of our high school graduates. In preparation for senior recognition on June 6, we ask families to please share with us some information about their accomplishments and next steps as well as a few favorite pictures.

### Summer Youth Adventures:

Montreat Youth Conference June 7-13

Youth Ice Cream Week and Big Chill July 7-10, 19

Massanetta Middle School Conference July 14-17

### Quest for the Best: Pizza

We're so close to summer we can almost taste it....and this summer we're tasting pizza! Share today your picks for places we must try as we plan for our annual event of fellowship and flavor.



## Young Adults

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

Mark your calendars for these focused events in May. Contact [Courtney Stevens](#) for more information.

**May 14 at Footnote:** Come for conversation and reflection.

**May 28 at Fiddlin Fish:** Music Bingo, Starts at 7:00 p.m.

### Start of Summer Cookout, May 31

We're kicking things off with a **Summer Cookout at the home of Grace Chao and Patrick Clarke** – a chance to relax, meet new faces, and enjoy some delicious food together. Bring a potluck item for a side or dessert to share. Bring a friend and an appetite on May 31 at 1:00 p.m.

# **Adult Christian Education**

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

All are invited to share in the Present Word Sunday School Class which meets throughout the summer 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 Summer we will study the testimony of faithful witnesses of women and men in the bible who responded in faith to God's call. Unit I focuses on Old Testament individuals: Deborah, Hannah, Jonathan and David and Amos. Unit II discusses four New Testament people whose lives were impacted by their encounter with Jesus: the Gentile Centurion, Simon Peter, Zacchaeus, and Mary the Mother of Jesus. Unit III remembers five New Testament individuals for their bold testimony and their response to the call of God to serve Christ: Thomas, Stephen, Saul (Paul), Timothy and Lydia.

*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*

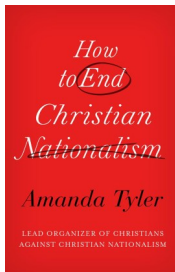


## **Parents' Conversation and Coffee, Room 126**

After getting children settled into their Sunday school classes, parents are invited to gather in Room 126 on the first floor for coffee and conversation. This is a great time to get to know other parents and compare notes on the joys and challenges of parenthood. On the first Sunday of the month we will have a special speaker, video, or other resource for deeper conversation on faith formation in the family and related topics. Other Sundays will offer free time to connect and maybe even share "best practices" in this amazing thing called Parenthood!



## Envisioning a World Without Christian Nationalism, Ardmore Room



Christian nationalism is one of the most urgent challenges facing the American church today – and faithful Presbyterians have both the theological heritage and the calling to respond. In this six-week class, we'll read and discuss Amanda Tyler's book, *How to End Christian Nationalism*, exploring what Christian nationalism actually is, how it differs from genuine Christian faith, and what we can do about it – in our congregation, our community, and our own families.

Amanda Tyler is an attorney, progressive Baptist, and lead organizer of the Christians Against Christian Nationalism campaign. She writes with clarity, compassion, and deep faith. Tyler does not ask us to check our Christianity at the door of public life. She asks us to bring it fully, faithfully, and wisely into the conversation.

This class is for anyone who has felt troubled by what they are seeing in the intersection of faith and politics – and anyone who wants to be equipped to respond with wisdom, love, and confidence. No prior background required. All are welcome.

*Facilitators: Scott Templeton, Carol Templeton, Heidi Hart, Randy Harris, Janny Gauss, Gillian Thomas, James Thomas, and Heather Ferguson*

*Location: Ardmore Room*

*Summer opportunities for adults in Christian Education and faith formation begin on Sunday, May 24, 9:00 a.m.*

## Adults

### Coffee & Conversation Tuesdays

On Tuesdays, Randy, Debbie, Courtney, or Heather will be back for these warmer months at Camel City Coffee (110 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: *Ex Machina*

**May 11, 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 May is *Ex Machina* (2014).

Contact [Randy Harris](#) for more information.



## Men's Breakfast

**May 20, 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](mailto:Randy.Harris@church.org) if you have questions.

## Highland Mum's Night Out, May 3



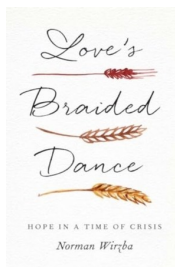
Mum's Night Out is a monthly evening of making connections, enjoying tasty snacks, sharing Mum insights, and building a circle of support and friendship among other Highland Mums. Whether you are expecting your first child, getting ready to send your little one to 1st Grade, or savoring that last year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

Please plan to join us on Sunday, May 3, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Judy and Roberts Bass, 2331 Elizabeth Avenue. For more information, contact [Heather Ferguson](mailto:Heather.Ferguson@church.org). Also reach out to Heather if you would like to host an evening with Highland Mums in your home.

## Purchasing Books for Highland's Book Groups



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](mailto:Debbie.Layman@church.org) with questions.



## Matthew 25 Book Group

***Love's Braided Dance* by Norman Wirzba**

Our Matthew 25 Book Group will meet on Mondays, May 18 and June 15 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the book *Love's Braided Dance: Hope in a Time of Crisis* by Norman Wirzba. In the book Wirzba recasts hope not as something people have, like a vaccine to prevent pain and trouble, but as something people do. It grows in contexts of nurture and belonging. Hope ignites when people join in what Wendell Berry calls "love's braided dance" — a commitment to care for one another and our world. Come join us as we hope together. Contact [Debbie Layman](mailto:Debbie.Layman@church.org) with questions.

## Poverty Book Group

### ***There Is No Place for Us* by Brian Goldstone**

Our Poverty Book Group will conclude our discussion of *There Is No Place for Us* on Tuesday, May 26. This book shares the stories of five families in Atlanta and helps us understand more about our neighbors who are working and unhoused. Contact [Debbie Layman](#) if you have questions.



## Listening to Black Voices Book Group

Join us via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on May 19 as we continue reading and reflecting on the experience of our African American neighbors and consider what our faithful responses might entail. In April we will discuss the final three chapters (8-11) of Heather McGhee's *The Sum of Us*. If you are interested, please contact Randy Harris at [rharris@highlandpres.org](mailto:rharris@highlandpres.org).



## 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**

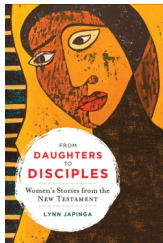
Life is definitely more enjoyable with a ukulele! Come and join us for some fun, regardless of your age or skill level. If you don't have a ukulele, let Heather Ferguson know, and we can arrange for you to borrow one. We're all learning and having a great time together. For more details, please contact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



# Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

10:00–11:30 a.m., Ardmore Room

## From Daughters to Disciples: Women's Stories from the New 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 this second of two volumes, Lynn Japinga acquaints readers with the women of the New Testament. From faithful forerunners like Anna and Elizabeth to female disciples like the sisters Mary, Martha, and Mary Magdalene to first-generation followers like Lydia and Dorcas, readers will encounter a wealth of foremothers in the faith in all their messy, yet redeemable, humanity. This Bible study introduces and retells every female character who contributes to one or more New Testament stories, diving deeply into what each woman's story means for us today with questions for reflection and discussion. Join us for friendship, open hearts and minds, laughter and depth.

*Our final Bible Study until the Fall Semester begins will be on May 21.*

## Volunteers Needed in the Nursery

Here's a great way to be reminded of the creative, graciousness of God. Come hold a baby! We currently need 5 additional volunteers to serve in the Nursery on Sunday mornings. When you volunteer, you will go through the Child and Youth Protection Policy Training and be assigned 4 Sundays over the course of the year. You will serve alongside our paid nursery staff, Judy Parro and additional Highland volunteers. We are blessed to have an abundance of young children and we need your help caring for them.

Come join this beautiful ministry to our young families. Contact [Heather Ferguson](#) to serve with other Nursery volunteers.



# **Community and Global Service Awareness**

## **How You Can Help Compost at Highland**

At Highland we are supporting a healthier environment by composting food waste and paper products. This effort combined with the use of our ceramic dishes for fellowship meals reduces our environmental footprint.



Following worship services and congregational meals, volunteers collect our compostable paper products and food scraps to place in bins which are picked up by Triad Composting and processed into usable compost.

The bins are located outside the kitchen door at the back of the Activity Building. We invite the congregation to bring appropriate materials from home to contribute. Included in the acceptable items are: food scraps (plant, meat/fish, dry goods, dairy, leftovers, coffee/tea with filters and bags), corks, pet food, and select paper products. A complete list is available in the church office and is posted on the bins. (Ask [Debbie](#) if you have any questions!)

We welcome volunteers who would like to assist in the collection process after worship or meals. It is a simple way to help care for our wonderful Earth! Please contact [Debbie Layman](#) for more information and to sign up. ~ Highland's Earth Care Team

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