

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Loving God, you call us into community, teach us your ways, and bless us with abundant life. Yet we turn aside to follow other paths: we take the easy way out, listening to the world’s call rather than your call to commitment; we quarrel with one another, letting differences divide us; we cherish our resentments, shutting off our hearts from forgiveness and reconciliation; we cling to petty jealousies, feeling we deserve more than we have. Forgive us when we wander from your love. Draw us into community with each other, and feed us with the milk of your grace, that we may grow in faithfulness and work together in peace. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all
All: And also with you.

THE WORD

WORDS WITH OUR YOUNG CHURCH Jen Jammer

NEW TESTAMENT 1Cor. 3:1-9

ANTHEM O Lord, You Are My God and King Burson

GOSPEL READING Matthew 5:21-37

MESSAGE Citizen of Heaven, week 5: Kingdom Authority
Rev. Chip Stapleton

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

RESPONSE

OFFERING
OFFERTORY As the Deer Nystrom
(Andrea Kelly, flute)

†DOXOLOGY #592
“Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him, above Ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.”

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

†HYMN #372 Lord, I Want to Be A Christian
“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” is an African-American spiritual that is thought to have originated in the 1750s. Through its recurring phrase, “in my heart,” this song of commitment expresses the desire that we may truly be the people of God.

†BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE Jubilate Deo Ayers
(O Be Joyful)
†All who are able, please stand

~~~PASTORAL CONCERNS~~~

We ask that you keep our home-bound in your thoughts and prayers.

P.W. and Martha Jessup Steve & Orion Gaynos  
Jean Robinson Madie Rae Locklear  
Lisa Hitt ("Grandma" to the Guy Family)  
(daughter of Gayle McDonald) Lib Yarborough  
Charlotte Ingram Bill Johnson  
June Marie Smith Betty Graham  
Doris & John English Hope Campbell  
Violet McNeill Mike Byerly (SIL to Shirley Olund)  
Randy Gainer Bill Owen

Please let us know if you have concerns that you think the church should know about. Please limit to close-extended family. We will put their names (and relation to you if you desire) in the email update. The names will be removed after a few weeks unless requested otherwise. Kelli 910-401-0928 or kellilu@gmail.com

Worship Leaders

Rev. Chip Stapleton, Senior Minister  
Pam Langston, Dir. of Music Ministries  
Jen Jammer, Dir. of Children’s Ministry  
Chris Jackson, Dir. of Youth Ministry

Hello Highlanders,  
Today, as I write this, plans are well underway for our Lenten season together. As hard as it may be to believe, Ash Wednesday is less than two weeks away - on February 22nd, we will begin our Lenten observance together with two services, one at 12:15 in the chapel and the other at 6:00pm in the sanctuary. For our worship and study as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter, we will be focusing on the Lord’s Table - and meeting him there. Our theme for worship is 'A Table in the Wilderness' and for our adult study on Wednesday nights (as well as our HPC podcast) we will be using the study book, 'Meeting Jesus at the Table'.

As excited as I am for all of what is coming up in Lent and Easter, I am also so excited about the session's decision to act on the recommendation of the finance committee and retire our mortgage debt in the first quarter of this year.

There are more exciting details to come about how we are going to celebrate this momentous occasion, giving thanks for the faithfulness of God and of the hard work and generosity of so many that made this possible, and finally, how you can participate in ensuring Highland's financial future is secure.

But in the meantime, we wanted to share some of the details of how we are able to take this action and to provide an accurate picture of our current financial footing. The figures below should be clear, however if anyone has any questions, please feel free to reach out to Sara, myself, Sheila Kinsey (chair of finance), or any member of the finance committee.

Projected mortgage payoff amount: \$1,013,500

Sources for the payoff:

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Employee retention credit funds   | \$530,000   |
| BB&T reserve account              | \$300,000   |
| BB&T mortgage account             | \$23,600    |
| Restricted funds for debt payment | \$32,000    |
| Session designated account        | \$127,900   |
| Total:                            | \$1,013,500 |

The existence of the session designated funds, as well as those funds in the BB&T reserve fund is only possible because of the faithfulness of the membership of Highland. In particular, the generosity of members that have remembered Highland in their will - many of these people are included in our Legacy Circle - and years of faithful, visionary stewardship by session and the finance committee.

God is faithful and good.

After the mortgage debt is paid, the church will have the following (est.) funds:

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Operating Reserve       | \$356,500 |
| Certificates of Deposit | \$473,000 |
| Total:                  | \$829,500 |

This amount will allow us to fund our operating account as well as fully funding the three reserve funds that finance has recommended (operating, maintenance, and learning center).

Again, today we can be thankful for God's providence and the faithful stewardship of so many that have allowed us to realize this important milestone.

Sharing God's Love,  
~Chip

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MISSION DAY**  
Monday, February 27th - 9:30am - Fellowship Hall - Light refreshments

The following items are needed to help the Presbyterian Women have a successful Mission Day. Please place donations in the baskets found in the lobby outside the elevator. Thank you for your generosity.

**Circle 3** - Will be making fleece blankets

**Circle 4 - Stanton House and Circle 5 - Urban Ministry**

Hygiene Kits: \*Wash cloths \*Antibacterial Soap \*Emery Boards \*Shampoo (travel size) \*Kleenex (travel size) \*Band-aids \*Toothbrushes \*Toothpaste (travel size) \*Laundry Det. PODS (6 in zip-lock) \*Socks \*Granola Bars

**Circle 6 - Veteran's Administration**

\*Reading Glasses - any strength but must be all plastic (no metal frames)  
\*Body Wash (full and travel size) \*Chapstick \*Deodorant \*Shaving Cream \*Lotion (full and travel size) \*Razors (double and triple bladed)  
\*Toothbrushes (individually wrapped) \*Toothpaste (full and travel sized)

**Circle 8 - Operation In As Much**

\*Powdered Laundry Detergent (measure out in 1/2 cups into zip-lock bags)  
Cleaning Supplies: \*Windex \*Magic Erasers \*Bucket \*Gloves \*55 Gallon Trash Bags \*Paper Towels \*Any other kind of cleaning supply  
Non-perishable Brown Bag Lunches: \*Fruit Cups \*Plastic Spoons \*Pop Top Can Foods \*Granola Bars \*Chips \*Cheese/cracker packs \*Packaged Sweets  
\*Water Bottles \*Brown Paper Bags  
Copy Paper

**Presbyterian Women's Honorary Lifetime Membership**  
Please consider nominating someone deserving of an Honorary Lifetime Membership. Nomination forms can be found at the front desk. The deadline for nominations is **February 24**.



**YOUTH INFORMATION**

This Sunday our Youth Group will be headed to the Harrells' home for a Super Bowl Party from 6:00 until the end of the Half-Time Show. Bring something yummy to help us fill up our SNACK STADIUM, and if you tell me what you're bringing maybe we won't double up;) Chips and Dips, Rolls and Sandwich Meat, Cheese, Fruit, Veggies, your dad's famous Wings, Cookies, Brownies, Drinks, Candy, Popcorn, whatever you like to snack on on game day. (Go Birds)

\*\*\*\*\*

**APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT 2023 - June 18-24**

High School Youth and Adults, join us for a week of fun, where we also grow closer to Jesus, make new friends, and serve a community who desperately needs our help after the floods that hit last fall. If you can't go, you can give! Just make a donation to Highland marked for ASP! - Contact Chris Jackson to reserve your spot today.

Consider Attending

**PRESBYTERIAN PILGRIMAGE**

*An Intensive 3-day Christian Growth Experience*

*From*

*Sundown Thursday March 9*

*To*

*Sundown Sunday March 12*

Visit [www.ncpilgrimage.org](http://www.ncpilgrimage.org) for more information and talk to someone from Highland who has attended. Here are some people you know who have been to Pilgrimage and would be happy to answer your questions: *Sally Augustine, Margaret Barefoot, Cathy Blackwell, Avery Cameron, Valen Fowler, Nancy Haithcock, Lauren Harper, Martha Ann Harrell, Carol Ivey, Gina Keel, Becky Lee, Lynn Legatski, Neill Legg, Katherine Parnell, Stuart Augustine, Kenny Barefoot, Scott Cameron, Mike Fowler, Dana Haithcock, Steve Harden, Shields Harper, Tom Lee, Karl Legatski, and Terry Morris.*



**Please take a look at these Music ministry opportunities at Highland:**

**Gathering Music:** Five minutes of music played quietly as people gather for worship. We welcome a variety of instruments. Your talent is God's gift to you, and what you do with it is your gift back to God. Email [music@hpchurch.org](mailto:music@hpchurch.org) for more information.

**Proclaim! Singers:** On Feb. 26 our youth Proclaim! ensemble will sing for the second time in worship. Rehearsals: Wed. at 5:15. If you are interested or would like to recommend a young singer, let Chris, Jen, or Pam know.

**Highland Ringers:** There are unassigned bells silently waiting for another ringer to join us so all bells can be rung! Upcoming ringing dates: 2/19, 3/12, 4/2, and 4/30. Come to a rehearsal to check us out...Rehearsals: Tues. at 6:00.

**Chancel Choir:** Currently preparing anthems for Lent, Stations of the Cross for Good Friday, introit & anthem with drum/flute for Palm Sunday, and introit & anthem with two trumpets/timpani for Easter. We especially need additional sopranos. Rehearsals: Wed. at 6:30.



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL**

**Wednesday, February 15th, 2023**

Menu: *Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad Bar, Dessert*

Make your reservations now! Call 401-0928 or [kellilu@gmail.com](mailto:kellilu@gmail.com)



**FEBRUARY 12, 2023**  
**11:00am**

**HIGHLAND  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

*SHARING GOD'S LOVE*

GATHERING MUSIC

**GATHERING**

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE

Great Is the Lord  
(Andrea Kelly, flute)

Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Happy are those who are without blame.  
**All: Blessed are those who walk in God's way.**  
One: Happy are those who are faithful.  
**All: Blessed are those who seek God.**  
One: We will obey your word, O God.  
**All: We will praise you forever!**

OPENING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #138

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

"Holy, Holy, Holy" (1826) was originally written for Trinity Sunday, but is now a hymn of praise for the entire liturgical year. The words evoke a sense of awe at the majesty of God, and call on all of creation to offer praise.