



# Highlawn Presbyterian HIGHTERIAN

November 2019

## A Note from the Pastor

Why are we here? (No, I'm not asking the kind of philosophical question that sometimes comes from late night stargazing!) We, as in, the church... as in Highlawn Presbyterian Church. The easy answer is there has been a community of fellowship and faith called by that name for over 100 years, and so those who are here now just keep on doing/being. But if HPC disappeared tomorrow, what difference would it make to the neighborhood and larger community? What kind of loss would God experience, not only in the present but in terms of future potential for sharing grace and love?

Previously I've written about "Heritage" and "Leadership," two of the five "Focus Points for Transitional Ministry," which are obviously important for any congregation in transition to look at. *But I believe that having a clear, shared perspective of mission is the most important factor in the life and faith of a congregation.* Beyond just the instinct to survive, why do we continue to exist? Toward what kind of future are we – even if sometimes slowly and ponderously – trying to move? How clearly do we perceive the call to be the body of Christ in the Highlawn neighborhood in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? And how is that call *unique* to this body of believers? If our mission statement sounds like it could apply to any church in our community, it might suggest that we lack some clarity.

Now ordinarily I would say that any time a pastor starts quoting from the Presbyterian Book of Order, you might want to consider propping your eyelids open. But this isn't "legalistic" stuff; it's about "The Mission of the Church":

- The Church is to be a community of faith, entrusting itself to God alone, even at the risk of losing its life.
  - The Church is to be a community of hope, rejoicing in the sure and certain knowledge that, in Christ, God is making a new creation. This new creation is a new beginning for human life and for all things. The Church lives in the present on the strength of that promised new creation.
  - The Church is to be a community of love, where sin is forgiven, reconciliation is accomplished, and the dividing walls of hostility are torn down.
- The Church is to be a community of witness, pointing beyond itself through word and work to the good news of God's transforming grace in Christ Jesus its Lord. A community of faith, hope, love, and witness. Which of those speaks to you most strongly? Which ones are easiest for you to identify at HPC? What are some ways that Highlawn seems to "entrust itself to God," and in what ways is it more difficult to do so? What kind of "new creation" do we hope for (and proclaim)?

One thing I know for sure that people are looking for in the world around them (though many have given up trying to find it in a church) is authenticity – individuals and organizations who don't claim to be perfect or to have all the answers, but who are honest about who they are and what they are trying to do. I still remember an authentic statement I

saw in a church job description years ago: “Imperfect church seeks imperfect pastor that grace may abound!”

Churches who describe their mission in a way that focuses primarily on those who are “inside” (members/participants) rather than those who are “outside” (neighborhood/community) risk becoming irrelevant, both to the needs outside their doors and also to God’s ongoing work of salvation – which I would argue is physical and emotional, as well as spiritual. At one time Highlawn Presbyterian was a church whose members mainly lived in the Highlawn neighborhood, as well as being focused on distinctive Presbyterian traditions and beliefs. Its founders believed there was a need and purpose for a Presbyterian church in the neighborhood – is that still true today, and if so what makes it true for *today’s HPC*?

As usual, I’ll leave you with far more questions than answers because the answers must come from the members and leaders of this congregation, rather than from me, and those answers will shape your future ministry and your search for your next installed pastor. Next month: Connections – exploring our partnerships and denominational resources.

Peace,  
Dana



Office Closed at noon Wednesday,  
Nov. 27, and closed all day Nov. 28 &  
29 in celebration of Thanksgiving



Session meeting November 21 @ 6pm



## November Greeter Schedule

<b>Nov. 3</b>	<b>David &amp; Martha Woodard</b>
<b>Nov. 10</b>	<b>The Spaulding Family</b>
<b>Nov. 17</b>	<b>The Morgan Family</b>
<b>Nov. 24</b>	<b>Tiffany, Mackenzie &amp; Max Barbera</b>

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## Monday Afternoon Bible Study



Join us at 1pm on Monday afternoons in the Parlor, for a weekly Bible study. Everyone invited!

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## Sunday School Opportunities

*God Loves Me*  
Birth—4 years old  
Taught by: Denise Parks  
Room : Nursery, 104

*All Together Now*  
Kindergarten - 3rd Grade  
Taught by: Emily Franks  
Room 208

*I Know My Bible*  
4th - 6th Grade  
Taught by Anna Laura Dorey  
Room 204

*Milestones, Connecting God's Word for Life*  
7th - High School  
Taught by Sarah Specht  
Room 202

*6 Themes in Jeremiah Everyone Should Know*  
Adults  
Taught by Carla Lapelle  
Room 108

*One Year Daily Acts of Kindness*  
Young Adults  
Library, Room 102

Bible Topics—  
Adults  
Taught by Richard Mobayed and Guest Speakers  
Room 101

*-Coffee and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following Sunday School*

## Fellowship Time



Let's get to know each other a little better! In between Sunday School and Worship, we would like to invite you to the Fellowship Hall for a treat and a cup of coffee while getting to know your neighbor a little better.

**Sunday Mornings,  
10:30-11:00am**

## Next month Mission Work Day November 1 at 10am

Come for the mission work, stay for the fellowship! We will be making pillowcases to be given to local agencies for the holidays and stockings to be filled for the Salvation Army. We would love to make as many as 80 pillowcases! Come when you can, leave when you need to. You may also pick up a kit to work on at home.

If you don't sew, but would still like to contribute, you can purchase a new pillowcase or donate money for pillows. Continue to watch for more mission work days!

## Pillowcase Dress Update!

Our **Little Dresses** should be on their way by the time you read this! I contacted our nearest

Dress a Girl Around the World Ambassador, Judy Donley, in Liberty, Ohio. She asked that we wait until the end of October to send her our box of 70 beautiful handmade dresses.

Judy will match our dresses with a Mission trip to be hand delivered to the lucky little girls who receive them. She is very excited to receive our contribution and thanks us for sharing in this ministry.



Join us in collecting and preparing snacks for the Hospice House in Huntington. We can use things like individually packaged snacks like cereal bars, Pop Tarts, pudding cups, fruit cups, small bags of cookies, pretzels, chips, etc. The snacks are assembled and taken to Hospice House on the first and third Sunday of each month.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF AMERICA**

On November 22 we will be assembling Snacks In Packs snack bags for the Boys & Girls Club at 11:00 AM in HPC kitchen.

If you would like to contribute snacks, here are some food ideas:

*Individually packaged— fruit snacks, pudding/ fruit cups, cereal bars, small cereal boxes, snack crackers, Pop Tarts, Rice Krispies treats, raisins, chips, Little Debbie snacks. Thank you for giving to this ministry!*



Huntington  
City Mission

— WHERE HOPE BEGINS —

On October 20, we cooked and served dinner at the City Mission. We served chicken casseroles, penne pasta with meat sauce, some Mexican surprise, green beans and potatoes, macaroni and cheese, along with some baked beans and a green salad, and we did have our desserts as usual.

Thank you to all who helped prepare the food, those who sent items and the hands that served the meal. In serving the chicken casserole, this is something we had not presented before but it was well-received.

Our next City Mission Sunday will be November 17 and we have already received a donation of barbecued pork for our menu. Remember that we do not go to the Mission in December due to scheduling of activities here at the church.

Also, there are several Christmas dinners provided by the downtown churches.

We always welcome “fresh hands” to help with either preparation or serving. Come and join the group—you’ll have a fulfilling time.



### Women's Fellowship

The study this year is on the Ten Commandments.

There are two times to attend; pick whatever time is best for you—either 1pm or 6:30pm.

Both meet in the Fellowship Hall.

All women of the church are welcome to attend.

### *Lesson 3*

November 14, 2019

**Words of Love: Keep Sabbath  
The Fourth Word**

Scripture: Exodus 20:8-11,

Deuteronomy 5:12-15, and Mark 2:23-28

Purpose: The purpose of Lesson Three is to understand the gift of Sabbath and to recover a sense of the sacred urgency of Sabbath-keeping for human life and the created order.



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN



## HIGHTERIAN

### OFFICE INFO

#### Phone

304-522-1676

#### Email:

office@  
highlawnpc.org

#### Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
10:00am-2:00pm

#### Interim Pastor

Rev. Dana Sutton  
Cell: 304-730-0640  
Email:  
dwsutton@gmail.com

#### Christian Educator

Sarah Specht  
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sarahb43215@  
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#### Choir Director

David Chenoweth  
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Email:  
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#### Organist

Alanna Cushing  
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Email:  
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#### Secretary

Jennifer Chapman  
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#### Sexton

Paul Smith  
Cell: 304-412-9632



Check out our church  
calendar on our website,  
**www.highlawnpc.org**

Let us know if you know  
of something coming up  
that should be added.



Nov. 3	Daylight Savings Ends
Nov. 10	Youth-led Worship
Nov. 10	Youth Fundraiser Luncheon
Nov. 14	Ladies' Circles
Nov. 17	City Mission
Nov. 21	Session
Nov. 22	Snacks In Packs
Nov. 28	Thanksgiving



### **Birthdays for This Month**

11/05	Annastaza Jones
11/07	Sarah Lovejoy
11/08	Jean Taylor
11/08	Linda Beegle
11/12	Jenny Walton
11/17	Tatyanna Jones
11/18	Donna Myers
11/18	Teresa Williams
11/23	Jim Musgrave
11/30	Jim Noel

### **Birthdays for The Beginning of Next Month**

12/02	Brian Specht
12/03	Janet Harbour
12/04	Max Specht
12/07	Debby Stoler



### **Listen to Sermons Online**

If you would like to hear the sermon for a certain Sunday, they are available on our website. Just click on the "Sermon" tab and select the date you wish to listen to.





## **Salvation Army Stocking Stuffer Ideas**

Please include only new, unwrapped items small enough to fit in a stocking.

Please **do not** include personal letters or pictures.

### **Baby**

Sippy cups, Bottles  
Hats, Socks  
Toys, Books  
Blankets, Pacifiers  
Small Stuffed Animal  
Baby Wash, Wipes  
Towel and Wash Cloths

### **School Supplies**

Pencils, Erasers, Sharpener  
Pencil Case, Safety Scissors  
Crayons, Colored Pencils  
Markers, Pens, Glue Sticks  
Coloring Book, Flash Cards  
Stickers, Self-Inking Stamps  
Books, Board Books



### **Personal**

Comb, Brush  
Bar Soap and Washcloth  
Toothbrush and Toothpaste  
Socks, Gloves, Hat  
Water Bottle  
Purse, Jewelry, Watch  
Hair Ribbons, Bows  
Headbands  
Lip Gloss  
Flashlight

### **Small Toys and Balls**

Doll, Stuffed Animal  
Small Cars and Trucks  
Slinky, Yoyo  
Bubbles, Play Doh  
Jump Rope  
Jigsaw Puzzles  
Card Games  
Legos  
Miniature Board Games  
Finger Puppets  
Craft Kits



## Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are due Sunday, November 17

You can find boxes on the table in the back of the Fellowship Hall. These are distributed to children around the world as a way to introduce them to the love of Jesus Christ. You can bring items to fill boxes, or take a box to fill yourself. You may also donate money toward the shipping of the shoeboxes. Thank you for all of your help!



## How to pack your shoebox



Pick up your shoebox from the Fellowship Hall



2-4

5-9



10-14

Girl or boy? - Decide if you want to buy for a girl or boy, and choose an age category

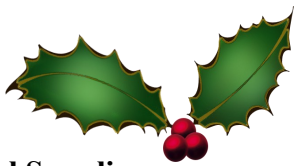


Fill with Gifts—Select a medium to large “wow” item such as a soccer ball with pump or stuffed animal, then fill with other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies.



Pray—Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift. You can also include a personal note and photo.





# Gift Ideas for Shoeboxes



## **School Supplies**

Pencils, Erasers and sharpener  
Pencil case and Safety scissors  
Crayons, colored pencils and markers  
Pens, note pads  
6 inch Ruler, Glue stick  
Small board books  
Coloring book, flash cards  
Stickers, Self-inking stamp

## **Hygiene/Personal Items**

Comb, Brush  
Mild bar of soap and wash cloth  
Toothbrush  
Solar-powered flashlight  
Draw string bag  
Hair ribbons/bows, barrettes  
Colorful Band-aids  
Small pack colorful tissues  
Lip balm (non-liquid)  
Emery board/nail clippers  
Socks, underwear  
Water bottle, Plastic eating utensils  
Sippy cup/cup with a lid  
Bandanas, Gloves, Toboggan  
Baseball cap, T shirt  
Flip flops, Sunglasses  
Plastic poncho in packet  
Purse, Necklace/jewelry  
Watch

## **Small toys and balls**

Doll, stuffed animal  
Small cars and trucks  
Harmonicas, tambourine  
Slinky, Yoyo, Paddle ball, Silly Putty  
Jump rope  
Jigsaw puzzle  
Finger puppets  
Bean bag, hacky sack  
Small dry erase board and markers  
Miniature checkerboard and checkers  
Unopened Happy Meal toy  
Legos, Crafting Kit



## **GIFT TIP**

When putting items together for your shoebox, start with a quality “**wow**” item such as a stuffed animal, soccer ball with pump, musical instrument such as a harmonica or woodwind instrument, a clothing outfit. . something that will capture the child’s attention the instant he or she opens the box.

## **\*Please Remember\***

**All items must fit in a shoebox**

## **DO NOT INCLUDE**

Candy  
Toothpaste  
Used or damaged items  
War-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures  
Chocolate or food  
Seeds  
Fruit rolls or other fruit snacks  
Drink mixes (powdered or liquid)  
Liquids or lotions  
Medications or vitamins  
Breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers  
Aerosol cans

**Shop for bargains all year long!**

## **MAKE IT PERSONAL**

You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group.

If you include your name and an address, the child may be able to write back.



## Join Us!

HPC Youth Group for Middle School and High School will be from 5pm—6:30 pm.  
Hope to see you!



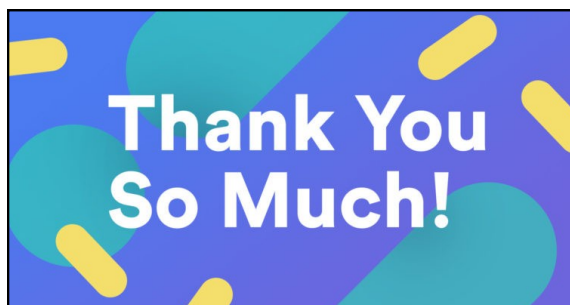
The youth group would like to ask you for some snack donations—  
their oddly specific list is as follows:

*Rice Krispie Treats*  
*Chips and Salsa*  
*Dino Chicken Nuggets*  
*Fries*  
*Chicken Fries*  
*Toaster Strudels*  
*Gusher Fruit Snacks*

If you would like to donate, please give them to Sarah Specht or place them in the basement kitchen so we know it's for the youth and not something else. Thanks so much!



On **Nov. 10**, the youth will be leading worship and they will have a fundraiser luncheon afterward.  
Please come out to support our wonderful kids!



Thanks so much to everyone who participated in our Halloween party! It was a huge success...  
See the pictures on the next page!



