

The Highland Messenger

June 2011

FROM THE PASTOR

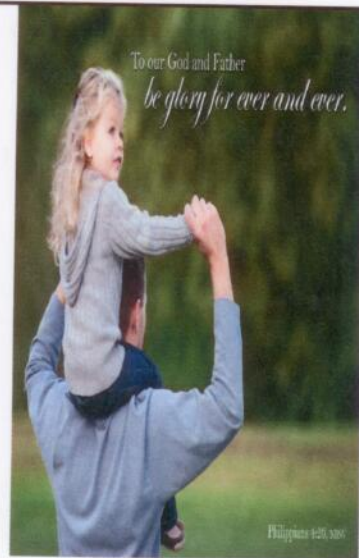
Dear Friends,

I am grateful to be returning for another year of ministry at Highland. I am especially grateful for the support of Highland's Staff-Parish Relations Committee for their support of another year of ministry together.

I stated to SPR that one of my reasons for wishing to return is the desire to be a part of a time of healing at Highland. In response to conflict that we have known since last year, we engaged in a time of mediation with the Rev. Mike Shirley. Rev. Shirley identified for me areas of my ministry in which he believed I could make some adjustments. I heard Rev. Shirley and have tried to respond for the good of the church. I have heard the concerns about lack of recognition for secular occasions in worship, and responded to these concerns while trying to be faithful to God's call of me to ministry. I hope recent services on Mother's Day and Memorial Day Weekend have served as witness my desire to bring healing to our differences. Again, I want to participate in a healing process that I believe will serve as a powerful witness to resurrection and the Christ who comes to heal and make all things new.

Despite the conflict that we have known, I am reminded daily of how blessed I am to be in ministry at Highland. In my ministry here I have worked with some of the most gifted laity to be found in any church, and I have worked with some of the most dedicated and faithful staff to be found anywhere. I am grateful to you all for your affirmation and prayers.

God has blessed Highland richly and has set us here to touch many lives with the good news of the gospel of Christ. I am excited about sharing in this witness with you, and to worshipping and serving the One who makes all things new.



Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 am Worship
9:45 am Sunday School
11 am Worship
(Sanctuary)
11 am The Compass
(in the Fellowship Hall
Casual dress)

Office Hours
Monday – Thursday
8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Friday
8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Grace and Peace in Christ

Keith

Sanctuary Worship in June:

June 5th - Acts 1:1-11. "He ascended in to heaven..." Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus ascends, with the promise of his return. So what does Jesus' ascension mean, and what do we do in the meantime?

June 12th - Acts 2:1-21. On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descends upon all who are gathered to worship in Jerusalem. All hear in their own language of the mighty works of God. The church is born, and our work has just begun!

June 19th - Matthew 28:16-20 Trinity Sunday. Jesus tells his disciples to make disciples in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We worship a "Triune" God, a God known to us in three persons. Yes, this is often quite confusing and difficult to talk about, but obviously of great importance to the church. Let's talk about it.

June 26th - Romans 6:1-13 The Apostle Paul speaks to the church in Rome about what baptism means, it's connection to the death of Jesus, and our own death to sin. We are raised up to newness of life, says Paul



Grace to you in the name of Jesus Christ,
who binds us together in the love of God.

You know, saying goodbye is a tough task.

Nearly two months ago, Shea and I received a call from the bishop's cabinet informing us that we would be moving this summer to Salem UMC in Palmyra, VA. We quickly found ourselves dealing with a variety of emotions: excitement, joy, and a revived sense of adventure, all bundled with some fear, uncertainty, and sadness. While the opportunities of new community in Palmyra were calling, we also knew that this meant our time with the Highland community in Colonial Heights was drawing to an end. Saying goodbye is a tough task.

Serving as associate pastor at Highland has been an extraordinary time in my life. These three years have been heartbreaking, hope-inducing, and unfailingly educational. I've been here to see youth grow in maturity of faith and conscience, and I've seen church members take leaps of faith in mission work and worship participation. I've watched (and felt) as adults fail to communicate and thus break the Body of Christ, and I've seen glimpses of mediation, truth-telling, acceptance, reconciliation, and healing. At Highland, I've witnessed that cycle of new life, death, and resurrection that underscores and pervades all Creation. It's far more than I can process before July 1, so I struggle to know how to end my time at Highland. Saying goodbye is a tough task.

~ Continued

On his newest album, *So Beautiful or So What*, Paul Simon has a song called "The Afterlife" in which he offers a reverently comic portrayal of waiting in line in heaven to meet God. As his moment finally arrives, he writes:

*After you climb up the ladder of time, the Lord God is near
Face-to-face in the vastness of space, your words disappear
And you feel like you're swimming in an ocean of love and the current is strong
But all that remains when you try to explain is a fragment of song*

Even after three short years at Highland, the ocean of love and memory is deep and the current grows stronger as July 1 nears. A little like Jonah, I'll soon be coughed out of this sea into new waters. And as I prepare for the new journey, I find that I can't really sum up my time at Highland. I just have fragments of song, glimpses of grace, and an abundance of thanks:

I'd like to thank the three Highland worship congregations for their special identities and their unique commitments to worshipping in community. I'd also like to thank Keith for welcoming me into ministry as a new pastor fresh out of seminary three years ago. Shea and I want to thank anyone and everyone who helped with our wedding back in August 2009, or welcomed Kyrienne when she was born in June 2010. For a Christmas card or a congregational song, for the gift of a breviary or a phone call to let us know that my favorite band would be on TV, for bringing a casserole to church or simply committing to Christian community... thank you.

The next associate pastor, Mike Tolbert, is a wonderful person and a gifted pastor, and I hope that you will welcome him with that special Highland hospitality. Out of courtesy to Mike and respect for the United Methodist appointment system, I want to be clear that I will no longer be one of your pastors. In the next year, particularly, I will not be coming back to Highland for visits or for liturgical roles. As of July 1, I will be committed to pastoral leadership at Salem, and Mike will be your associate pastor at Highland.

Saying goodbye is tough, and I know that my last Sunday on June 12 will be a complicated day for me. But I also know that the Body of Christ is connected in a communion that passes our understanding, and I give thanks that we will still be bound in the grace of shared memory, fragments of song, and the limitless love of God.

Thanks be to God,

Drew



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

JESSICA LORENTZ	COLONIAL HEIGHTS
MEGAN ELIZABETH MCNEER	TIDEWATER ACADEMY
LIZ RITCHIE	COLONIAL HEIGHTS

COLLEGE GRADUATES

SARAH CARPER	LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY
KRISTEN MARSHAL	UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA (MASTERS)



The Recreation Committee will sponsor the annual picnic on June 18, 2011 from 4–8 p. m. at White Bank Park, Pavilion #2. Drinks will be provided by the Recreation Committee. Games will be begin at 4 p. m. and we will eat at 6 p. m. If raining picnic will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

Those of you who will bring:

Covered Dish	Yes
Dessert	Yes

Name _____

No. of Adults attending _____ Children attending _____

~ Gary Rose
Recreation Chairman

SYMPATHY

We express our condolences to the family of Nancy Lee Walker Jones, who passed away on May 21, 2011. She was the sister to Preston Walker.

May God comfort all who knew and loved her.

**Financial Up-Date
April 24 – May 15, 2011**

2010 Budget	\$388,385.00
Amount needed each month	32,365.42
Amount received (4/24 – 5/15)	25,400.97
Amount needed Year-to-date	
20 weeks @ \$7,468.95 per week budgeted	149,379.00
Amount collected year-to-date	149,567.81
Amount needed each Month for Building/Capital Improvement	
Loan Payment	3,997.41
Amount received Building/Capital Improvement (4/24 – 5/15/)	2,016.00
Memorial receive (4/24 – 5/15)	25.00

ATTENTION ALL CRAFTERS

And

YARD SELLERS

The Sisters In Faith and Agape Circles will be co-sponsoring a Community Yard Sale/Craft Sale on Saturday, September 17th in the Fellowship Hall. Tables may be rented for \$15. Please see any member of the circles to reserve your table. All proceeds will be used to further the missions and ministries of the circles.

Upper Room Devotional Books are available in the Sunday School area located in the Upper Room Rack. **Cost:**
.70c Regular print \$1.00 Large print

BACKPACK BLESSINGS APPROVED FOOD LIST

It is most helpful to provide foods in individual serving sizes and those which are easy for kids to open and prepare. The backpacks can become heavy for young children so we are asking for smaller sizes of some items.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANYTHING GLASS

WE ARE NOT ACCEPTING CANS THAT REQUIRE A CAN OPENER OR BOILING WATER AS MANY KIDS WILL BE PREPARING FOODS ON THEIR OWN.

Whole grain cereals – no larger than 9 oz. box (Cheerios, Chex, Raisin Bran, etc.)

Pop Tarts

Cereal Bars/Granola Bars/Nutrigrain Bars

Shelf Stable Milk – Individual serving size or quart size chocolate or regular

Peanut Butter – Not larger than 28 oz.

Jelly – Plastic squeeze bottles

100 % Juice – Individual serving size juice boxes or bottles (Plastic or Paper Packaging)

Snack Pack Pudding Cups

Individual serving size apple sauce

Fruit Cups – Individual serving size

Fruit snacks

Individual packages of raisins

Nuts/trail mix – individual serving size

Small Packs of beef jerky, pepperoni or meat sticks

Individual packages of peanut butter or cheese crackers

Handi-Snacks

Microwave popcorn

Pull top cans of soup (think kid)

Chef Boyardee pull top microwavable individual meals

Chef Boyardee pull top cans of spaghetti and meatballs

Kraft Easy Mac or Velveeta shells and cheese individual microwavable meals

Minute Rice ready to serve individual cups (microwavable)

Donations may be dropped off at the Backpack Blessings Table in the Hospitality area.

Many thanks to you for your support of the "Backpack Blessings" program! Because of your gracious support, fifteen elementary school children and their families are receiving backpacks full of food each weekend. Plans are being made to expand this program to reach more children.



JUNE

- | | |
|--|--|
| 01. Haley Gottshall
Cole Shinault | 16. Raeford Walker
Raenord Walker |
| 02. Wayne Harrison | 18. Pamela Henderson |
| 03. Carolyn Gill
James McNeer
Eloise Ward
Hailee Sakiewicz | 19. William Hammond
Jeana Maitland
Terri Hoark
Clifford Short |
| 04. Pamela Sharp | 20. Kimmberly Brown
Sierra Broaddus |
| 05. Lynne P. Hamlin | 22. Carolyn Johnston |
| 06. Ed Branch
Gordon Will | 24. Lynn Foy |
| 08. Rebecca Anderson
Jacob Evans
Jason Neace
Robert Primmer | 25. Derek Gaskin
Jim Murdock |
| 09. Heather Andrews
David Walker
Mike Yates | 27. Mary Amiss
Debi Carper
Diana Lilley |
| 10. Julie Blankenship
Jimmy Gibbs, Jr.
Keith Harper
Casey Kreicar | 28. Richard Harrison
Steven Sheffield |
| 11. Marie Cheeley | 29. Jessie Fuller
David R. Kimbriel |
| 12. Samantha Colvin
Barbara Ford
Amanda Nicholas | 30. Erin Thomasson Shown
Andrew Breidenbach
Cassie Slaybaugh
Lesley Thomasson |
| 13. Lisa Hardy
Sarah Smith | |
| 14. Michael Kimbrough
Austin O'Daire
Brenda Zimny | |
| 15. Dorothy Crowder
David Robertson | |

Listed are our Shut-in's –Give them a call, send a note let them know you care and they are in your prayers (Those with asterisk would enjoy visits).

Larry & Mary Amiss	*
Betty Bands	2
Virginia & Fred Barker	*
John Brockwell	*
Anne Burgess	5
Bruce Branton	*
Evelyn Dail	5
Jackie Fenderson	*
Mary Ferguson	6
Beverley Hill	1*
Barbara Kellam	*
Clyde Long	1*
Bea Mann	*
Edythe Martin	2
Nancy Price	*
Lillian Ross	*
Betty Story	6
Marty Thorne	2
Clarence Wells	*
Ann Webb	*
Martha Woolfolk	*
Joyce Westfall	5
Alex Westmoreland	*
Helen Hardy	1*
Peggy Picardat	*

Out of State

Elizabeth Bedford	-	2521 Don Juan Loop NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104
Helen Moore	-	332 Buna Vista Avenue, Arnold, MD 21012
Marguerite Widdop	-	Wingate at Brighton, Room 204 B, 100 North Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02134

Legend - 1 Colonial Heights Health Care Center -831 E. Ellerslie Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834
 2 Dunlop House – 235 Dunlop Farms Boulevard, Colonial Heights, VA 23834
 4 Brighter Living – 5301 Plaza Drive, Hopewell, VA 23860
 5 Dinwiddie Nursing and Rehabilitation Home – 46 Diamond Drive, Petersburg, VA 23860
 6 Tyler's Retreat at Ironbridge – (New Nursing Home – Rt. 10) 12001 Ironbridge Road, Chester,
 VA 23831



VBS SHAKE IT UP CAFÉ
JULY 25 – 29, 2011
9 AM – 12:15 PM

Those of you willing to help please list your name in the area you like to volunteer, or let Cindy Lorentz or the church office know. Thank you

CRAFTS

1. Kim Lundy
2. Kathy Treaster
3. Sarah/Jewell Rose
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

DISCOVERY

1. Sarah Carper
2. Darlene Symborski
- 3.
- 4.

MUSIC

1. Jessica Lorentz
2. Renee Helsel
- 3.

NURSERY

1. Scarlett Seay
2. Hannah Carper
- 3.

2 AND 3 YEAR OLDS

1. Paula Ritchie
2. Jacqueline Payne
- 3.

KINDERGARTEN

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

4 AND 5 YEAR OLDS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

1ST AND 2ND GRADE

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

3RD AND 4TH GRADE

1. Linda Morris
- 2.
- 3.

5TH AND 6TH GRADE

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

RECREATION

- 1.
2. Brittany Lorentz
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

SNACKS

1. Pat Wilson
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

STORYTELLING

1. Joyce Learnard
- 2.
- 3.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!! ☺

Conference Info

4 CANS 4 CONFERENCE

The conference is collecting food for SW VA Food Bank:

- 1 Can Meat/Fish
- 1 Can Veggies/Fruit
- 1 Can Soup/Stew
- 1 Can with a Pop-Top

Please do NOT BRING Damage cans, Home canned items, Out of date items. Think like a hungry person.

Please pack in a Recyclable shopping bag, so the food bank folks can pass along.

The food items will be taken to conference June 15th.



UMCOR CLEANING BUCKETS

All Clergy and laity who will be attending Conference are asked to bring cleaning buckets to replenish the supply of buckets that UMCOR has already sent out. These buckets are sent with regular shipment of disaster relief kits collected at Annual Conference June 15-19 in Roanoke. If you wish to make a monetary donation the UMCOR Advance number is 901440. To stock a cleaning bucket the estimated cost is \$55.00.

United Methodist Women

The Portsmouth District will begin a new journey as they become the James River District UMW. A "Called" special meeting will be Sunday, June 12 at Waverly UMC at 3 p. m. All UMW members are invited. You are asked to take food items with you to share with the Waverly Food Pantry as our mission

emphasis. For questions or more information please contact Carol Elmore, Petersburg District UMW President.



Exploring Ministry Event

Are you interested in exploring your gifts to serve a church? November 11 – 13, 2011 in St. Louis, MO ages 18 – 26 years and have not yet identified your gift for being an ordained ministry to serve the church of the world. Or if you are a young adult who has already considered a call to ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church.

A previous Exploration event was part of the journey to ordination for Rev. Jessica Fuller, a deacon serving Crozet UMC. Jessica will be attending Exploration '11 as a representative from the Virginia Conference. She would be glad to talk with anyone who is interested in attending. Information on the event is available online at www.gbhem.org/exploration.

June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday 8:30 & 11 am Worship Services Sanctuary 11 am Alternative Service Fellowship Hall	Every Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School for all ages and Nursery	Sisters In Faith Circle responsible for removing altar flowers this month.	1 5:30 pm Church/ Community Supper. 6:15 pm Jr. High 7 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal	2 6-8:30 pm Faithfinders Karate & Exercise Classes 6:30 & 7:25 Softball: High- land vs 1st Assembly of God	3 7 pm Coffee House Fellowship Hall	4 9—11 Adm. Council Mtg.
5 9:30 am Shake It-Up Café. 9:45 am Graduate Brunch. 4 pm Young Children's Choir Practice. 4 pm Petersburg Dist. Farewell	6 7:30 pm Bykota Circle	7 6-8:30 pm Faithfinders Exercise & Karate Classes 6:30 & 7:25 pm Softball: Highland vs Western Hgts. Baptist	8 11:30 am Joy Club 5:30 pm Church/ Community Supper. 7 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm Circle of Agape Meeting	9 6-8:30 pm Faithfinders Karate & Exer- cise Classes. 8:20 & 9:15 pm Softball: High- land vs Colonial Hgts. Bapt.	10 5—7:30 pm UMM Fish Fry.	11 9:15 am Colonial Hgts. Food Pantry
12 9:30 am Shake It-Up Café 9:45 am Charge Conf. 12:30 pm Farewell Luncheon for Drew & Shea. 5-6:30 pm UMYF Combined Jr. & Sr. High Cook-out & final Meeting.	13 6 pm Staff-Parish Relations Committee Mtg.	14 12:30—3 pm Geri Andrews Circle Mtg. 6-8:30 pm Faithfinders Exercise & Karate Classes	15 5:30 pm Church/ Community Supper. 7 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal ANNUAL	16 11 am Ann Douglas Guild Meeting. 6-8:30 pm Faithfinders Exercise & Karate Classes. CONFERENCE	17 Congratulations to ALL Highland's Graduates!!! :) ROANOKE, VA	18 4-8 pm Church Picnic At White Bank Rain location Highland's Fellowship Hall
19 Father's Day 9:30 am Shake It-Up Café	20	21 6-8:30 pm Faithfinders Exercise & Karate Classes	22 5:30 pm Church/ Community Supper. 7 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal.	23 6-8:30 pm Faithfinders Exercise & Karate Classes	24	25
26 9:30 am Shake It-Up Café	27	28 6-8:30 pm Faithfinders Exercise & Karate Classes 7 pm Education Committee Mtg.	29 5:30 pm Church/ Community Supper	30 6-8:30 pm Faithfinders Exercise & Karate Classes.		