

The Highland Messenger

May 2011

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

As I write this, I carry with me strong memories of the Holy Week and Easter services of recent days.

I remember, with gratitude, the Maundy Thursday meal and the service, with Last Supper that followed. I remember the Good Friday Tenebrae Service, and our Youth's powerful portrayal of the suffering and death of Jesus.

I remember the light of resurrection breaking into the darkness of death, and the telling of God's salvation story, during our Easter Vigil. I remember awakening early on the first day of the week, as the first witnesses to resurrection did, to proclaim the good news that Christ is risen.

I remember the lively witness to the resurrection of Jesus that was offered in word and music and sacrament in each of our Sunday services.

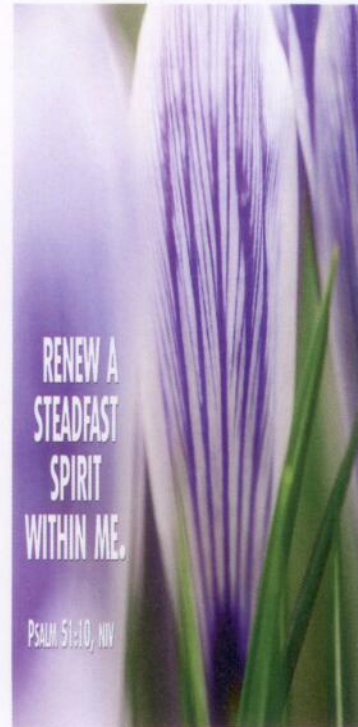
I remember all of this, with great gratitude, and remember only because Christ is alive! I count myself blessed to share in this witness which I both remember and anticipate with you.

As I remember, I am also aware that we as the church live within the consequences of this resurrection message. Christ is with us; he will not leave us alone; he is in no way done with us. Now, if we take this news seriously, we live as he commanded: love God; love one another; serve one another; let your light shine; take up your cross and follow. Demanding words, yes, but words we are called to obey if we take the resurrection of Christ seriously.

I pray we take these words seriously, and continually offer ourselves as those who remember God's love for us shown in Christ, and in faithful remembrance, live according to the witness of the living Christ.

Grace and Peace in Christ,

Keith



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 to you in the name of Jesus Christ,
the resurrection and the life.

Christ is risen! Alleluia! As we dance the celebration way through Eastertide, I want to give thanks for several Holy Week experiences that I find myself still carrying well after Sunday's sunrise.

First, I'm thankful for the **Maundy Thursday** service on April 21. Jen Webb and a crew of worship planners put together a beautiful and faithful time of worship that evening. The choir was a blessing, plenty of folks in the congregation participated directly in the footwashing and more offered their witness, and the service was a powerful one-two combination with Bryan Carper's Passover meal that immediately preceded it. What a formative time of remembrance for our community of faith!

Next, our senior high youth created an extraordinary service for **Good Friday**. The shadows were long and the darkness was deep when the youth led us into the meaning and mystery of Christ's crucifixion and death. Accompanied by Mike Whitfield's dynamic piano improvisation, the youth offered a series of enacted *tableaux vivants* to depict the passion narrative from the gospels of John and Matthew. Thanks for your creativity in leadership! You made the scripture come to life.

Then **Easter** morning: what a glorious celebration positively gilded by the performance of Linda Morris' bell choirs in the sanctuary, the sacramental celebrations in the Compass, and so many more highlights for so many folks. We are resurrection people! Let's make sure we celebrate resurrection life more than once a year!

This month, our big **youth group** activity will be a combined senior high/middle school lock-in from Friday, May 13 to Saturday, May 14. We'll begin the evening by meeting at the church at 6pm to leave for a Richmond Flying Squirrels game, and we'll conclude by going to the Colonial Heights Food Pantry to volunteer in the morning.

Throughout May and early June in the **Compass** (and on May 15 in the sanctuary), I'll be offering a series of sermons on *What It Means to Be Methodist*, using Charles Wesley's hymn *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* as a springboard. I can promise:
some notorious history,
some life-giving theology,
some embarrassing John Wesley stories,
some great music, and...
why Methodists, by God's grace, could just save the world today.

Yes, I'm talking about you. Come discover the **method** to the madness.

Peace to you all,

Drew

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR SANCTUARY IN MAY:

May 1 - John 20:19-31. "Doubting Thomas" wants proof that Jesus is raised from the dead – don't we all?

May 8 - Luke 24:13-35. Jesus, raised from the dead, walks with a couple of followers on Easter evening to the village of Emmaus. They do not recognize him – until after he has interpreted scripture and broken bread with them. So: where is Emmaus for us? Where/when do we recognize the living Christ with us?

As this is Mother's Day, the choir will offer a Mother's Day anthem.

May 15 - Drew will preach from his continuing sermon series on *What It Means to Be Methodist*, using Charles Wesley's hymn, *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* as a springboard.

May 22- John 14:1-14. Jesus tells his disciples, from whom he will soon part, that he goes to prepare a place for them. We hear these, again, as words of comfort, but the disciples are understandably concerned – "who will take care of us?" How does Jesus Memorial Day answer this question for the disciples, and for us?

May 29 - John 14:15-21. Jesus continues to speak to his disciples of his approaching departure. He speaks of the work of the Holy Spirit, and how his followers are to live in his absence. So: how are we obeying these words of Jesus until he returns?



Graduates

Will you be graduating this spring, or maybe you graduated in the fall? If so, Highland will be honoring all graduates on June 5th. Please complete the form below and return to the office by **May 15th**. Thank you.

Name _____

Graduating from _____

FEEDING MINISTRY

We will be hosting the feeding ministry at Gilfield Baptist Church, Petersburg on Thursday, May 12, at 12 p. m.

MENU

Spaghetti w/Meat Balls
Tossed Salad
French Bread
Carrot Cake
Tea and Orange Drink

You may make a contribution to help off-set the cost of this ministry make check payable to **Highland UM Church**, earmark "*DT Feeding Ministry*". Thank you!! :)

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



Congratulations to Katelyn Humphreys and Travis Alexander Payne upon the birth of their daughter, Reagen Sophia Payne, who was born on April 5, 2011. She weighed 3 lbs., 5 ozs., and was 16' long. The proud grandparents are Bill and Melanie Humphreys.

SYMPATHY

We express our condolences to the family of Joyce Gibbs, who passed away on April 29, 2011.

Also, to the family of Jeanne Davis, who was the niece of Joyce Gibbs, passed away on April 29, 2011.

Financial Up-Date
March 27 – April 17, 2011

2010 Budget	\$388,385.00
Amount needed each month	32,365.42
Amount received (3/27 – 4/17)	34,370.04
Amount needed Year-to-date	
16 weeks @ \$7,468.95 per week budgeted	119,503.20
Amount collected year-to-date	124,166.84
Amount needed each Month for Building/Capital Improvement	
Loan Payment	3,997.41
Amount received Building/Capital Improvement (3/27 – 4/17)	2,771.00

HIGHLAND'S SOFTBALL SCHEDULE



- MAY 5 - 8:20 & 9:15 PM Highland vs
Western Heights Bapt.
@ Lakeview #1
- May 12- 6:30 & 7:25 pm Highland vs
Colonial Heights Bapt. #2
@ Lakeview #1
- MAY 19 - 6:30 & 7:25 pm Highland vs
Mount Pleasant Baptist @
Lakeview # 2.
- MAY 26 – 6:30 & 7:25 pm Highland vs
Calvary Bapt. @ Lakeveiw #1
- May 31 - 8:20 & 9:15 pm Highland vs
Western Heights Baptist AAA

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.



May

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 01. Steven Aldridge | 20 Pat Hauser |
| 02. Jason Sponsler | Justin Yates |
| Billy Streeter | 21 Gene Miller |
| 03. Alfred Voss | 22 Nancy Robertson |
| Sierra Marie Diaz | Stacy Parker-Strauser |
| 04. William Lucie | 23 Jennifer Henderson-Merrell |
| Linda W. Meyer | Ireland Sakiewicz |
| Clinton Riley | 24 Carolyn Hile |
| Elvira Shaw | Miranda Leigh |
| 05. Justin Davis | Stephanie Sheffield |
| Justin White | Shannon Sheffield |
| 07. Samantha Broaddus | 25 Sharon Murdock |
| Todd Wilson | James Alan Patterson |
| Brian Voss | 26 Wes Brower, Sr. |
| 08. Winonia Martz | Eleanor Fox |
| 10. Elizabeth Kibler | Bill James |
| Elaine Kollman | 27 Eunice Brockwell |
| 11. Shirley Branch | Ronda Keeler |
| 12. Patricia Martz | 28 Shelia Jacobs |
| Richard Leighton | Emily Sovocool |
| 13. Darwood Rowan | 29 Alice Garrett |
| Sarah Rose | Virginia Barker |
| Jay Ruffa | 30 Kathy Heretick |
| 14. Jennifer Brooks | Diane Neace |
| Elizabeth Odom | James White |
| 15. Justin Maitland | |
| Michael Roark | |
| Nikki Schaut | |
| Scott Spencer | |
| 16. Steve Cox | |
| Jimmy Mills, II | |
| 17. Katelyn Humphreys | |
| 19. Phillip Mitchell | |
| 20. | |

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	1*

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

May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 4 pm Young Children's Choir 4 pm Children & Youth Choirs 5 pm Adult H'bells 5 pm Sr. High Youth	2 6:30 pm Board of Trustees Meeting. 7:30 pm Bykota Circle Meeting	3 6-8:30 pm Exercise & Karate Classes 6:30 pm Liaison Meeting	4 5:30 pm Community/ Church supper 6:15 pm Jr High Meeting. 7 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal	5 6-8:30 pm Exercise & Karate Classes 7-8:15 Bible Study @ Willson 8:20 & 9:15 pm Softball: Highland vs Western Hgts. Bapt.	6 4-9 pm Dalton McNeer Class Dinner.	7
8 4 pm Young Children's Choir 4 pm Children & Youth Choirs 5 pm Adult H'bells 5 pm Sr. High Youth	9 10:30 am Eunice Reynolds Circle Meeting	10 12:30 pm Geri Andrews Circle Meeting 6:15 pm Finance Meeting 7 pm Adm. Council Meeting	11 5:30 pm Community/ Church supper 6:15 pm Jr High Meeting. 7 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm Agape Circle Meeting	12 12 pm Feeding Ministry 6-8:30 pm Exercise & Karate Classes 6:30 & 7:25 pm Softball: Highland Vs CH Bapt. 7-8:15 pm Bible Study @ The Willson's	13 6 pm Youth Lock-in	14 9:15 am C. H. Food Pantry UMM Fishing Trip 9:30 am end Youth Lock-in
15 4 pm Young Children's Choir 4 pm Children & Youth Choirs 5 pm Adult H'bells 5 pm Sr. High Youth	16	17 6-8:30 pm Exercise & Karate Classes 7 pm Sisters In Faith Cr. Mtg. 7 pm Education Committee Mtg	18 5:30 pm Community/ Church supper 6:15 pm Jr High Meeting. 7 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal	19 11 am Ann Douglas Guild. 6-8:30 Exercise & Karate Classes. 6:30 & 7:15 pm Softball: Highland Vs Mt. Pleasant 7-8:15 pm final Bible Study at the Willson's	20	21
22 pm Young Children's Choir 4 pm Children & Youth Choirs 5 pm Adult H'bells No Sr. High Youth	23	24 6-8:30 pm Exercise & Karate Classes 6 pm Staff-Parish Relations Mtg. @ Lu Knarr's	25 5:30 pm Community/ Church supper No Jr High Meeting. 7 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal	26 6-8:30 Exercise & Karate Classes. 6:30 & 7:25 Softball: Highland vs Calvary Bapt.	27	28
29 4 pm Young Children's Choir 4 pm Children & Youth Choirs 5 pm Adult H'bells No Sr. High	30 Office closed.	31 8 am Domestic Violence Task Gr. 6-8:30 pm Exercise & Karate Classes 7 pm Hospitality Committee Meeting 8:20 & 9:15 pm Softball: Highland Vs Western Hgts.	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	Geri Andrews Circle responsible for removing altar flowers this month.	