

The Highland Messenger

July/August 2011

FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR

Keith

Dear Friends,

I am grateful for the conversation we have shared at our recent called Administrative Council meetings. I know that Jen Webb, our council chair, speaks to these meetings elsewhere in this newsletter, but I want to affirm her gracious leadership and the work that we have undertaken in speaking to those core values so vital to the life of Highland. At least in these early discussions it is clear that the values of hospitality, mission with the poor, and worship are central to Highland's ministries and understanding of what God is calling us to do and who God is calling us to be. God is making a difference and touching many lives through these ministries, and this is to be celebrated!

It is also clear by way of these meetings that we need to improve our communication as a church. There are many wonderful ministries in which many individuals and groups are involved, yet such ministry is not always communicated effectively to the entire church. There are also certain needs and opportunities before us, and this is not always communicated. So in times of worship, as well as by various media, we wish to communicate more effectively the ministry opportunities and needs that are before us, as well as the many reasons to celebrate all that God is accomplishing with Highland Church.

Let me share that I am looking forward to working with the Rev. Mike Tolbert as Highland's new Associate Pastor. Mike brings some wonderful experience with him and I believe the gifts he brings to ministry will serve Highland well and will be well-received.

Finally, we know that as we move into the Summer months, we move, historically speaking, into that time of low attendance and low giving. May I share that the promise we made upon joining the church; to "faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service," is a promise that applies to each and every season. I ask you please to remember faithful worship and service of God in this season as in every season.

I count myself blessed to be a part of all that God is doing by way of this body of Christ, Highland United Methodist Church. Grace and peace to you in the name of the living Christ.

Grace and Peace in Christ



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

Greetings to all my brothers and sisters in Christ!

My name is Mike Tolbert and it is my humble honor and great pleasure to be appointed as the new full-time associate pastor to the wonderful people of Highland United Methodist Church.

I was born and raised near South Hill, Virginia, and enjoyed learning the kind of life lessons that growing up in rural Virginia can teach. I attended college in Danville, VA at Averett University, and after college went on to serve in the US Navy. My wife Cris and I were fortunate enough to be transferred to Hawaii, and while there, graced with the birth of our son, Caleb.

While in Hawaii and coming to the end of my military service, I was appointed to serve as the associate pastor of Kailua United Methodist Church. We met and served in ministry with many extraordinary people in Kailua, and saw God move in the lives of the congregation and the whole community of Kailua. In January of 2011, God decided to do a new thing in my family's call to ministry, as we received word that we would be transferring to the Petersburg District. In April of 2011 we moved back to Virginia, and soon after were notified that we would be appointed to Highland UMC. It is good to be home!

The presence of God is alive in this church, in so many wonderful ways, and Highland has already blessed me and my family tremendously in the short time we have been here. Many of you may already know that my family's household goods shipment from Hawaii has been delayed, but the good people of Highland have stepped up to lend hands, furniture, and prayers until our move issues can be resolved. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for the love and support that you have shown to Cris, Caleb, and I, even before our first Sunday.

I am excited to see what God has planned for the future of HUMC. I am eager to discover what wonderful new missions and ministries He will call our church to perform, and what new relationships He will bring to light! May God bless you and your families, and may He continue to reveal himself in the life of our church.

In the love of Christ,
Mike Tolbert
Associate Pastor, UMC

Three laity from Highland attended the 2011 Annual Conference in Roanoke from June 15-19. Tricia Cox, Lay Leader, and Delilah Caldwell represented Highland. Elvira Shaw represented the Petersburg District.

The conference slogan this year, "Being Christ to Others--Snapshots of the Kingdom," focused on mission work being done by the conference as a whole and by individual churches. Church representatives brought photos of mission work performed by their members in the preceding year. A highlight of the conference was the presentation of two awards to the Virginia Conference by the Board of Global Ministries. Our conference has the highest percentage of churches participating in designated mission relationships in the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, and the highest level of giving to mission of any conference.

Some ideas discussed at conference could be useful as we discuss topics such as declining membership and core values. For example, the Common Table suggests changing our focus. Instead of emphasizing declining membership numbers, we could emphasize "Fruitfulness and Multiplication." The Board of Discipleship Regional Network Teams have resources available to local churches for use in assessing strengths and weaknesses, which could be useful to us as we contemplate our core values.

With the reduction in the number of districts, Highland is now part of the James River District. Our new District Superintendent is John Vest.

Many churches in our conference are struggling with the same issues we struggle with here at Highland, such as financial difficulties and discord within the congregation as important issues in the life of each church are addressed. A series of sermons by Rev. Dr. Sam Wells reminded us that the life of a church involves hard work if we are to walk in the steps of Christ, and that we must listen to one another, repent and do penance for our wrongs, and come together as one body in our efforts to be Christ to others. Snapshots of the kingdom are not always pretty. Sweat and mud, tears and blood sometimes obscure the view. Nevertheless, those of us who attended conference came away refreshed by the good news that so many of our brothers and sisters continue to struggle as we do, in places all over the world, and with amazing stories of success.

--Delilah Caldwell, Tricia Cox, Elvira Shaw

Administrative Council Update

As a result of our recent mediation in March, Council has held two called meetings/workshops to discuss and outline the Core Values of Highland. These Core Values are those values we hold, which form the foundation on which we perform work and conduct ourselves - the basic elements of how we go about our work and interact with each other. During these discussions, we have also talked about membership issues at Highland. Additionally, an ad hoc committee has been formed to evaluate the worship schedule – including the three Sunday morning services as well as other non-Sunday morning worship opportunities. The work of this ad hoc committee is still ongoing, but an update will be given to Council at its next meeting.

Administrative Council will meet on Tuesday, July 12th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. As always, Council meetings are open to the entire congregation, and while voting privileges are outlined by the Discipline, this is a very good way to know what is going on in the life of our church. I am very thankful for those members (members of Council as well as many members of the congregation at large) who have taken time to attend these meetings, as well as to call me, write me, and speak with me regarding their thoughts, concerns, and praises. This is our church, and it will take the involvement of all of us to ensure its success in furthering the ministry of Jesus.

Yours in Christ,
Jennifer Webb

FEEDING PROGRAM

The downtown Churches United feeding program July 11 at 12 p. m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 12 North Street, 228 Halifax Street. Petersburg.

Menu

Hot Dog Macaroni Cheese Casserole
Tossed Salad/dressing
Bread
Banana/Cookies
Iced Tea and Orange Drink

Those who like to make a contributions to this ministry make check payable to ***Highland United Methodist Church*** earmark "***DT Feeding Program***". 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.

May 22 – June 19, 2011

2010 Budget	\$388,385.00
Amount needed each month	32,365.42
Amount received (5/22 – 6/19)	31,238.72
Amount needed Year-to-date	
25 weeks @ \$7,468.95 per week budgeted	186,723.75
Amount collected year-to-date	180,806.53
Amount needed each Month for Building/Capital Improvement	
Loan Payment	3,997.41
Amount received Building/Capital Improvement (5/22 – 6/19)	3,093.50

In Memoriam

Lucille Brockwell Barlow - May 31, 2011

Beverley Hill – July 3, 2011

Alice K. Garrett – July 3, 2011

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



JULY

- | | |
|--|---|
| 01. Nancy Price
Frank Schultz | 18. Sandra Laufer
Greta Richey |
| 02. Kevin Hardy
Stephanie Underwood
Donna McCoy
Lauren Clarke | 19. Ann B. Webb |
| 03. Charla Mills | 20. Cathy Learnard
Marguerite Widdop |
| 05. Crystal Gullede
Garey Laube | 22. Amber Payne
Lynn Townes |
| 06. Sandra Coleman
Judy Yarchin | 23. Dorothy Kollman |
| 08. Kristen Marshall | 24. Brandy Helmer
Paige Phillips
Betty Ridout |
| 10. Abigail Evans
Kim Fisher-Hockaday
Lucille Parker | 25. Chris Austin
Wanda Helmer
Joey Marshall, Jr. |
| 11. Mark Morton
Virginia Procise
Carol Pulley | 26. Ray Bowles
Taz Cheeley |
| 12. Sandra Vance | 27. Amy Hart
Michael Neace
Cindy Woolfolk-Pond |
| 13. Taylor Humphreys
Maggie Jenkins
Alan Mills | 28. Hunter Andrews
Debra Bowles
Betty Bands
William Jose |
| 14. Kristy Coleman-Evans
Gail Rice
Richard E. Sawyer | 29. Todd Nardoizzi |
| 15. Karron Small
Jonathan Sponsler | 30. Bill Ferguson
Donna Goulder
Cathy Heath
Sahvanna Roark |
| 17. Jane Ford | 31. Michael Davis |



AUGUST

- | | |
|--|---|
| 01. Ashley Harvey
Paul Laube | 05. Renee E. Fox
Kaitlyn Horak
Rex Sharp |
| 02. Timothy Fenderson
Thomas Lee Friel, III
Chris Humphries
Jonathan Schaut | 06. Jane Laube-Bach
Tracy Perrow-Breasure
Victoria Hunter
John R. Tucker, Jr.
Jeanne Harper |

- | | |
|---|--|
| 07. Mary Jean Lester
Peggy Picardat | Anne Waggoner |
| 09. Donna Barr
Kristen Hamlin
Richard Primmer, Sr. | 22. Nelson Streeter |
| 10. Wesley Primmer
Gail Simmons
Jennifer Mishoe-Webb | 23. Preston Aldridge
Neil Knarr
Larry Wilson |
| 11. David Moulton, Jr. | 24. Kyle David Gaskin |
| 12. Kilyna Nguyen
Scott White | 25. Tricia Cox
Rory Shane Patterson |
| 14. Lynn Yager
Kellie Hardy-Brekke
Joyce Learnard
Barbara Moring | 26. Frederick Martin, IV
Lois Spencer |
| 16. Kimberly Coleman-Lundie
John R. Kibler | 27. John D. Martz, Jr.
William Waltman, Jr. |
| 17. Matthew Scott Cates
Phyllis Brewer-Fox
Robert W. Sawyer | 28. Robert Dobrick, Jr.
Kristina Nguyen |
| | 29. Richard Primmer, Jr. |
| | 30. Jennifer Andrews
Daniel Sharp
Pat Wilson
Clarence Wells |
| | 31. M. D. Blankenship
Kim Miller |
| 19. Austin Davis
Elizabeth Michalek
Terry Doane-Short | |
| 20. Patricia Hauser
Sherrie Lund
Jacob Murdock
Noah Murdock | |

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	7
Mary Ferguson	6
Helen Hardy	2*
Barbara Kellam	*
Clyde Long	1*
Bea Mann	*
Edythe Martin	2
Peggy Picardat	*
Nancy Price	*
Lillian Ross	*
Betty Story	6

Marty Thorne	2
Clarence Wells	*
Ann Webb	*
Martha Woolfolk	*
Joyce Westfall	5
Alex Westmoreland	*

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
 7 **Golden Living Center** - 287 South Blvd., Petersburg 23803



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 Rose
4. Jewell Rose
5. Tiffany Courtney
- 6.

DISCOVERY

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

MUSIC

1. Jessica Lorentz
2. Renee Helsel
- 3.

NURSERY

1. Scarlett Seay

2. Hannah Carper
3. Taylor Humphreys

2 AND 3 YEAR OLDS

1. Paula Ritchie
2. Jacqueline Payne
3. Brittany Davis

KINDERGARTEN

1. Liz Ritchie
2. Lauren Jackson
- 3.

4 AND 5 YEAR OLDS

1. Stefanie Heretick
- 2.
- 3.

1ST AND 2ND GRADE

1. Donna Goulder
2. Julianne Sponsler

3.

3RD AND 4TH GRADE

1. Linda Morris

2.

3.

5TH AND 6TH GRADE

1.

2.

3.

RECREATION

1. Pauline Mulaniff

2. Brittany Lorentz

3. Kelsi Mulaniff

4. Ashleigh Tuck

5.

6.

SNACKS

1. Pat Wilson

2. Betty Leighton

3. Barbara Wetherington

4.

5.

6.

STORYTELLING

1. Joyce Learnard

2. Thelma Tiedeken

3. Grayson Shinault

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!! ☺

Vacation Bible School Registration - Highland United Methodist Church

July 25 -29, 2011

9:00 a. m. - 12:15 p. m.

Please fill out separate form for each child.

Name _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone Number _____

Allergies: _____

Any other problems church should be aware of? _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Church of Attendance _____ Is pick-up by church van needed? _____

Who will pick child up daily from VBS? _____

Is there anyone **Not** authorized to pick up your child? _____

Emergency contact name and phone number: _____

Please check the appropriate box:

Age 4; Entering Kg in fall of 2011;

Grade completed spring 2011

Kg.; 1st; 2nd; 3rd; 4th; 5th; 6th;

July 25 -29, 2011

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Address: _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone Number _____

Allergies: _____

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Is there anyone **Not** authorized to pick up your child? _____

Emergency contact name and phone number: _____

Please check the appropriate box:

Age 4; ___ Entering Kg in fall of 2011;

Grade completed spring 2011

___ Kg.; ___ 1st.; ___ 2nd.; ___ 3rd.; ___ 4th.; ___ 5th.; ___ 6th.;