

HIGHLAND CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 2016

Highland Church reaches out in the name of Jesus Christ building disciples with vision for ministry.

THE LEGEND OF ST. VALENTINE

The history of Valentine's Day—and the story of its Patron Saint—is shrouded in mystery. We do know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and that St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. But who was Saint Valentine, and how did he become associated with this ancient rite?

The Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured. According to one legend, an imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl—possibly his jailor's daughter—who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. (information taken from history.com)

Don't you love a good love story? I sure do! Love is such a powerful thing. The passion of being in love and loving one another is such a blessing. Remember without love we gain nothing! (I Cor. 13:3) Of course, the greatest love story is about God loving us enough to die for our sins! One of the best ways that we can love others is by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ!

Don't forget to affectionately love those in your life with the gift of love that God has given you!

CPWM

CPWM did not meet in January.

Our next meeting will be held Monday, February 1 in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. We will discuss publishing a new church directory and making plans for 2016. Please join us for a fun and informative morning!

Session Notes

At the January meeting, the session agreed to

- Have the cemetery roads paved
 - Host a Valentine banquet and dessert auction, Feb. 14 at 6:00
 - Host a joint Ash Wednesday service with Margaret Hank CPC, Feb. 10
 - Have a church wide Super Bowl Party, Feb. 7 at 5:00 p.m.
 - Allow the choir to have an Easter Cantata on Palm Sunday, March 20
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December Numbers

Stewardship Report January 27, 2016

Receipts	\$ 13,129.01
Disbursements	\$ 14,414.04

Attendance Record

Morning Worship

January 3 – 73

January 10 – snow day

January 17 – 73

January 24 – 64

Little Red Wagon Food Ministry

Meals-in-a-can – items include hearty stews and soups, and Chef Boyardee foods, or anything on that aisle in the grocery

February Elders

Elaine Kaye, Laura DeHart

February Ushers:

Tanner Parker, Sharon Slankard

Laura DeHart, Randy DeHart

Welcome New Members

Sunday, Jan. 24 Dr. Clint and Kathy Hill, and their children Graham, Seth, Cooper, Jacob and Olivia joined our Highland family. They have already been very active in our youth and children's activities. We are very proud to have this wonderful family.

Sunday Evening Discussions

Thank you to everyone who has been attending on Sunday evenings. So far we've had some interesting questions and discussions on angels. Our next topic will be about heaven. You are invited to join us.

February Calendar

Feb. 1 – CPWM, 10:00 a.m.

Feb. 7 – Super Bowl Party, 5:00 p.m.

Feb. 10 – Ash Wednesday Service, 6:00

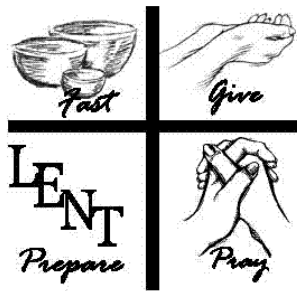
Feb. 14 – Valentine banquet and Dessert
Auction, 6:00 p.m.

Feb. 21 – Session meeting, 2:00 p.m.



Valentines Banquet and Dessert Auction

Please join us Sunday, February 14 at 6:00 p.m. You will have your choice of Barbeque Chicken or Bacon wrapped Pork. Reservation forms will be in the Sunday bulletin, or you can call the church office.



Ash Wednesday Service

The Christian Season of Lent begins February 10 with Ash Wednesday. We will host a joint Ash Wednesday service with the Margaret Hank CPC at 6:00 p.m. that day. If you have never participated in an Ash Wednesday service, please make plans to attend. You will learn that Lent is about more than just giving up Cokes and chocolate.

February Birthdays

3 – Ann Rushing

6 – Isaac Brown

10 – Kurt Hasty

20 – Brenda Cunningham

21 - Max Dodd

Skyler Winsett

22 - Jennifer Roberts

24 - Abraham Dumes

25 - Libby Dodd

Bro. Bud

26 – Gretta Ridings

29 - John DeHart

Ella DeHart

February Anniversaries

23 - Mark and Linda Cunningham

12 Trends found in healthy churches

To continue our monthly list of these identifying markers of a healthy church we see:

Trend #2: A large number of church members read the Bible daily.

(January) Trend #1: Healthy churches have a high view of the Scripture.