

HIGHLAND CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 2023

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

In an old Calvin and Hobbes comic strip this conversation takes place: In the first frame Calvin speaks to Hobbes and says, "Live for the moment is my motto. You never know how long you got." In the second frame he explains "You could step into the road tomorrow and WHAM, you get hit by a cement truck! Then you'd be sorry you put off your pleasures. That's what I say - live for the moment." And then he asks Hobbes: "What's your motto?" Hobbes replies: "My motto is - Look down the road."

Are you a Calvin or Hobbes: living for the moment; or looking for what's coming down the road?

When it comes to looking down the road, what are your biggest concerns? How high will gas prices (or eggs) be next week? Will the economy recover this year? Will there be enough money for my retirement? Will my family be okay if something happens to me?

James 4:13-17 says, "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit' yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.'" As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

The fact of the matter is life *is* a vapor - it passes all too quickly and pride will always be a battle which we must contend with. However, while we are here, the Christian has assurance that God is in control, He alone is faithful and we should strive to be humble and obedient servants earnestly seeking God's will. Why would we choose any other way to look down the road? We are 'fearfully and wonderfully made' by a God who knows our plans and is there to lead us. (see Psalm 139)

To choose God and His direction is the best (and most important) decision we could ever make. Choosing God is choosing wisely and choosing to follow His Son, Jesus leads to the abundant life He talks about in John 10:10, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." Moreover, in Matthew 7: 24-27 Jesus uses the metaphor of the houses built on rock vs. sand to describe the solid foundation established when our obedience and decisions have been centered and rooted in Christ. "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

Looking down the road, what do you see? What do you believe? Has God been invited to oversee and direct your plans? Seek God's guidance through His Word, prayer time and silent reflection.

In closing, hear the words of comfort from the prophet Jeremiah to the Jews in Babylonian exile. ¹¹ "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

Praise be to God, He still hears us and is with us!!

Women's Ministry

CPWM met Monday, January 9th to make plans for an exciting New Year! We voted to send \$200.00 to Martha's Vineyard from the funds we received from the Loaves and Fishes Offering; take a meal to Roy and Sharon Rushing; purchase gift cards for Baby Camp and Baby LaBlanc. Jeanne Mullen proposed a fundraiser for recording studio expenses for our Praise Team - Pam Russell, Cindy Robertson, and Randy Robertson. She feels strongly that we need to hear their music throughout the week, not just on Sundays. We are planning a salad and baked potato bar for Sunday, February 12th following Morning Services. They will be playing some of the songs we do not hear on Sunday morning. Since this is just before Valentine's Day, we will have chocolate for dessert. Please let Elaine Overton know if you plan to attend! Thank you Jeanne for inspiring us!

Our next meeting will be Feb. 6 at 10:00 a.m. We will celebrate the February 5th birthday of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Please join us!

Session Highlights

Items approved at the January Meeting:

- On recommendation from Youth Director, Elizabeth Spann, include adults in a documentary titled *The Underground Church* scheduled for March 3rd for 6th grade through High School youth.
- On request from CPWM, host a salad and potato bar fundraiser Sunday, February 12 to pay expenses for recording studio sessions for our Praise Team .
- Waiver for Pickleball participants,
- Donate \$50.00 to the Ballard County HS Solar Car Team. Maddie Stowell is captain of this team.
- Reimburse Melissa Dumes \$86.00 for replacing a hubcap on the Church Bus.
- Update the active membership list on the Highland Church website.

January Numbers

Financial Record as of January 25

income - \$ 17,763.00

expenses - \$ 18,817.89

Attendance

January 1 - 77

January 8 - 81

January 15 - 88

January 22 - 76

January 29 - 78

February Calendar

February 4 - Baby Shower, Haley Camp, 2:00

February 5 - Communion, Morning Worship

February 6 - CPWM, 10:00 a.m.

February 12 - Baked Potato/Salad bar lunch

February 16 - Highlanders

February 19 - Session Meeting, 2:00 p.m.

February 22 - Ash Wednesday Service

February Ushers — Jeff Parker, Laura DeHart,
Steve Davidson, Ryan Spann

February Elder - Cindy Robertson

Baby Shower for Haley (Russell) Camp

Saturday, February 4 at 2:00 p.m.

She's having a GIRL

Things that happen EVERY WEEK

Sunday - Sunday School, 9:45 am

Morning Worship, 10:45 am

Evening Worship, 5:00 pm

Monday - Secretary in the office, 9:00 am

Scouts, Fellowship Hall; 6:30 pm

Tuesday - Exercise, Gym, 5:00 pm

Discipleship Class, Fellowship Hall, 6:00 pm

Wednesday - Secretary in the office, 9:00 am

Adult Bible Study, Fellowship Hall, 6:00

Youth Groups, Gym, 6:00

Thursday - Secretary in the office, 9:00 am

Pickleball, Gym, 6:00 pm

Saturday - Exercise, Gym, 10:00 am

Pickleball, Gym, 2:00 p.m.

The Birth of a Denomination

Sunday, February 5 Cumberland Presbyterians celebrate the 213th anniversary of the founding of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The "Cumberland" church came out of the Presbyterian Church as a result of differences over theology, ministerial education and the Great Revival of 1800. For more information on our beliefs and doctrine please contact the church office.

Youth News

Winter JAM - 6th-12th Grade will travel to Nashville for this event on February 3, 2023. Cost is \$15 plus dinner. The church bus plans to leave Highland at 3:30PM.

Fam Squad - We want to come cheer you on! Got a game? Have a band concert? Choir concert? Dance Recital? We wanna know! Put your event on the Fam Squad calendar on the youth bulletin board in the fellowship hall so we know when we can come cheer you on!

February Birthdays

3 - Ann Rushing
Deborah Russell
5 - Brenda Haynes
11 - Steve Davidson
16 - Dee Lipford
19 - Samantha Parker
20 - Brenda Cunningham
Maizie Rushing
21 - Max Dodd
24 - Abraham Dumes
25 - Bro. Bud
29 - John DeHart
Ella DeHart

February Anniversaries

10 - Jim and Wanda Perry
23 - Mark and Linda Cunningham