

HIGHLAND CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 2023

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

Easter has always been a special time in my life. As a child, growing up, Easter, was a time of candy, desserts and family gatherings. If it was warm outside, we had Easter egg hunts and flew kites. They were such wonderful times for me. As I got older however, I realized there was so much more. Yes, I still love all these things, but a greater truth began to emerge in my life: The Resurrection of Jesus Christ! As a child I had heard about the resurrection, but how did it affect me? What are implications of the resurrection and what does it mean to you?

Stephen Olford in his book *The Pulpit and the Christian Calendar*, shares this story that illustrates the impact the resurrection can have on a person.

A father and mother lost three children in one week by diphtheria. Only the little three-year-old girl escaped. On Easter morning, the father, mother, and child were in Sunday school. The father was the superintendent. He led the school in worship and read the Easter message from the Bible without a break in his voice. Many in the school were weeping, but the faces of the father and mother remained serene and calm. "How can they do it?" men and women asked each other as they left the church. A fifteen-year-old boy, walking home with his father said, "Father, I guess the superintendent and his wife really believe all of it—Easter you know!" "Of course," answered the father, "all Christians believe it!" "Not as they believe," said the boy.

Do you really believe in Easter? Is the resurrected Christ your hope? Can you say with the apostle Paul, "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?... Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:54–57 KJV)?

Spring is coming and we all enjoy the new sensations of the season. Just as the physical world around us blooms and grows, with the Resurrection God brings new life to us. When our faith is well rooted, we bloom and grow, transforming from lives dead in sin to lives abounding in the riches of His Glory. It is the new creation found in 2 Corinthians 5:17 that we experience when believe and accept Christ as our Lord. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

Women's Ministry

CPWM met Monday February 6th in the Fellowship Hall. We opened our meeting by lifting up our missionaries, the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria as well as our various prayer concerns. We spent the morning making plans for our fundraiser to be held Sunday, February 12th following worship services. Debbie Hughes is working to coordinate our plans with Jeff Parker regarding our salad and potato bar. We will be bringing desserts including some chocolate items and are looking forward to hearing music from our Praise Team, Pam Russell, Randy, and Cindy Robertson, as we eat. Sidney Milton agreed to send an email to remind our members. We discussed the lap blankets we plan to make for our shut-ins this year and upcoming Easter services on Ash Wednesday, March 22nd.

Our next meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall Monday, March 6th at 10:00 a.m. We will be reviewing results from our fundraiser and making plans for Easter. Please join us! We have some exciting new ideas!

Session Highlights

Items approved at the February Meeting:

- On recommendation from Youth Director Elizabeth Spann, allow our youth to join Jeff Parker's Sunday School Class in serving the homeless each quarter.
- Review proposed updates to the Youth Ministry Handbook presented by Youth Director Elizabeth Spann. They will be finalized at the March meeting.
- On recommendations from the Christian Education Committee schedule VBS for June 11, 12, and 13. A final program will be held during Morning Worship Services Sunday, June 18th with a potluck and ice cream social to follow. Safe Sanctuary Training is scheduled for Sunday, May 7th and VBS training will be held Sunday, May 21st.
- Schedule a Pickleball Celebration for Saturday, March 25
- Participate in Barbeque on the River September 21-23.
- Jeff Parker will serve as our delegate to Presbytery at the Fredonia CP Church Saturday, March 18th

February Numbers

Financial Record as of February 27

income - \$ 19,646.05

expenses - \$ 15,424.27

Attendance

February 5 - 89

February 12 - 78

February 19 - 69

February 26 - 79

March Calendar

March 3 - *Is Jesus Enough?* video, 6:00 p.m.

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

March 12 - Daylight Savings Time begins

March 16 - Highlanders, Rafferty's, 5:00 pm

March 18 - Presbytery, Fredonia CPC

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

March 25 - Pickleball party

March 29 - Easter Egg Hunt, 6:00

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, 6:00 pm

Wednesday - Secretary in the office, 9:00 am

Adult Bible Study, 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.

March Ushers – Steve and Diane Shrewsberry

Mike and Brenda Haynes

March Elder - Melissa Dumes

Youth News

Underground Church 6th-12th Grade, March 3, 5PM-Midnight. Is Jesus Enough? Join us as we view a documentary that shares stories of believers in persecution and how they follow Jesus, love Jesus, and walk with Him even when it doesn't make sense. **The entire church family is invited to view the documentary with us at 6PM.** Following the documentary our youth will play some of our favorite lock-in games.

Easter Egg Hunt Our children's ministry will celebrate Easter on March 30th at 6PM with an Easter egg hunt. We need your help getting our eggs ready. Please consider donating candy to fill our eggs. All candy donations can be given to Elizabeth or left in the fellowship hall in the bucket by the youth bulletin board.

VBS It's time to start thinking about VBS. This year our VBS will take place June 11-14. We are beginning to build our serving team for this year. This is an important week of outreach for our church and community. Contact Elizabeth if you would like to serve on this year's team.

Youth Discipleship Weekend: April 28-30 - Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for our discipleship weekend. More details and sign up information coming soon!

SAVE THE DATE FOR SUMMER FUN!

5/27 - City Museum Trip (6th-12th Grade)

6/11-6/14 - Stellar: Vacation Bible School

6/25-6/30 - Senior High Camp

7/16-7/21 - Jr. & Jr. High Camp

March Birthdays

- 1 - Jere Ann McKlemurry
- 2- Michelle Wooten
- 3 – Jan Keen
- 4 - Kyle Sexton
- 8 – Nick Ferrer
- 15 – Nancy Finnell
- 17 – Seth Hill
 - Julianna Cooper
 - Katelin Cooper
- 20 – Andrew Cunningham
- 23 - Lilly Cooper
- 24 – Diane Shrewsberry
- 28 – Molly Gannaway

March Anniversaries

- 5 – Clint and Brenda Cunningham
- 16 – Dick and Elaine Kaye