



Highland Herald

November 2016

Vol. CXVI No. 11



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Sermons for the Month of November

November is an interesting and catalytic month. Immediately after our first Sunday of worship, we will finish going to the polls on Election Day. Every election is at least a micro-choice that later determines the macro-choices of history. This election feels as if it might be even more meaningful than normal. In one of those God-thing kind of coincidences, Election Day is quickly followed by Veterans Day - a date chosen because of the end of World War I. It is as if to say elections and political choices have consequences and a country's citizens then have to pay the price. As the Church calendar of feast days draws to a close, we commit ourselves to our church's support and remember our year - good and bad - at the Stewardship and Stew luncheon. The month wraps up with Thanksgiving and the decorations for Advent and the first Sunday of a new Church calendar year begins on the last Sunday of the month as Advent begins.



The anticipation of Advent themes is a feature of the sermons for this crucial month. On November 6, the first Sunday of November, we will celebrate communion and investigate these Scriptures: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5; 13-17 and Luke 20:27-38. If you would like to prepare, you might also read Haggai 1:16 - 2:9. The subject is *The Latter Glory*. Then, on the 2nd Sunday, the 13th, our readings will be from Isaiah 65:17-25 and Luke 21:5-19, and we will consider our *Enduring Hope*. The 3rd Sunday in November, the 20th, is also the end of the Church liturgical calendar year - Christ the King Sunday. In Colossians 1:11-20 and Luke 28:33-43, we will see Jesus' special kingdom is *The Kingdom of the Cross*. Don't forget to stay for the Stewardship and Stew luncheon after worship! We will decorate the church for the Advent/Christmas season on Saturday, November 26th at 9:00 a.m., and then celebrate the first Sunday of Advent on November 27th. Isaiah 2:1-5 and Matthew 24:36-44 point towards *What's Coming*. In a crucial time when the immediate future is so clouded, it is important to gather to worship the One who lasts and the future He promises. Let us join together each of these Sundays and both remember and look ahead in faith and hope.

It Happened in Session

The Session met on Tuesday October 18th at the church.

Scott Mackey had information from Camp Gilmont advising that their annual "Visioning Dinner" is scheduled

for November 19th. Actually there will be activities at the camp all day leading up to the evening dinner.

The Nominating Committee will meet soon to name a person to fill the unexpired term for Trustee Bobby Cannon, Class of 2017, who passed away October 17th.

John Davis presented the 2017 Planning Budget (prepared by Jerry Ragan) which was approved by Session for presentation to the congregation at the Stew & Soup luncheon on November 20th. This lunch will take the place of the November potluck. The Harvest Table will be placed in the elevator lobby from October 23rd thru November 20th with the proceeds to go to PATH prior to Thanksgiving. The annual Joy Gift offering was approved to be received on December 18th.

Ron Lowrance advised that the church will be decorated for the holiday season November 26th. He also noted that a special Saturday afternoon concert with a children's choir is scheduled for December 3rd. Communion will be served at the Christmas Eve service on December 24th.

The heating system will be inspected in the near future by Walker Air Conditioning. This is part of the annual preventative maintenance program in place with them. With the addition of the new lighted sign in front of the church the operation of the electric eye switches which controls the outside lights in front of the church, have been checked out. The timer on the lights for the walkway behind the church has been reset for the season.

The message on the new lighted sign recently has been the sermon title, but it was agreed that adding "Sermon this week" should make this clearer. Also, the sign will be used to announce special events, such as the December 3rd music event.

Harvest Table

Each fall we have the opportunity to fill up the Harvest Table with a variety of food products which will be sent to PATH. The Session has again approved setting up the table in the elevator lobby where it will remain until November 20th. The food will be taken to PATH prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. You can bring your food anytime and any week, adding to it as you have the opportunity to do so.

Look at the picture from last year's table. We can make it even fuller this year. Thanks in advance for your participation.





HIGHLAND NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS



Ladies, Please Read...



Prayer Shawl Meeting: Tuesday, November 1st at 6:30 p.m. at Deb Lowrance's house.

Ladies' Circle meetings...

Evening Circle:

Monday, Nov. 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Morning Circle:

Tuesday, Nov. 12th at 10:00 a.m.



Tuesday, November 12th: Ladies' Out-to-eat at PotPourri House at 11:30 a.m.



Advent Poinsettias will be \$5 each. Deadline is November 20. See Ron Lowrance to purchase. The poinsettias will be displayed in the sanctuary from Nov. 27 through Christmas Day.

Saturday, Nov. 26th at 9:00 A.M., we need everyone to come help decorate the church for Christmas. Jobs for all activity levels, including sitting, as wreaths will need to be fluffed and bows smoothed. See you there!



You are cordially invited to celebrate!

The 60th birthday of Julie Davis!

Saturday, November 26th, 3-5 P.M.

At the home of
John, Becky, Chrissy, & Katy Davis
9343 Chisolm Trail, Tyler

Cards would be appreciated.

The presence of our family and friends will be enough to make the day special for Julie.

Dear Highland members,

Another year is rapidly coming to a close, which means it is time to plan ahead for next year and at the same time take a look at where we have been.

Our Treasurer has made a projection of our expected income and expenses for 2017. He projected the income and expenses based on our experience during 2016 with only minor changes. Using this approach, it is no surprise that the resulting proposed budget is very much like the current budget.

Join us after worship on November 20th for our annual Soup & Stew luncheon where you will have the opportunity to review the planning budget for 2017. We will be providing you with pledge cards shortly which you can use to make your commitment to the ministry at Highland. If you cannot attend the lunch, mail your card to the church or drop it in the offering plate during worship.

Consider increasing your pledge as you ask God for guidance. Be assured that your support is vital to Highland continuing to be a friendly place to worship, not only in 2017, but for years into the future.

John M. Davis

Stewardship & Service Chairman



Higgins Wildcat Choir

Holiday Music Presentation

Directed by Tori Dorsey

Saturday, Dec. 3 at

Highland Presbyterian church

At 4:00 PM





Becky's Music Notes



November 2016

I am really enjoying the fall weather we are finally getting. The cool weather is a welcome relief after the 90 degree temperatures we've been experiencing. Along with fall are the beautiful colors in the trees as they change. We were in Iowa a year ago for a football game and thoroughly enjoyed the fall weather and beautiful foliage. The changes are not as dramatic here, but there are some beautiful trees changing colors.



The Highland Bell Choir played Sunday, October 30, for the first time this year. We not only played a couple pieces, but you, the congregation, participated as well. The bells accompanied the congregation during the singing of the hymn, "Holy, Holy, Holy", and it sounded great! We will be doing this again, during our Christmas Program, on December 18.

And speaking of Christmas.....there are only 7 more Sundays between now and Christmas. And, this year, Christmas will be on a Sunday. Our Christmas program will be Sunday, December 18, during worship. We are all very excited about the program we will be playing that Sunday and hope you will be there to enjoy it as well. Again, the congregation will get to sing along with the bells during a hymn (or two) during the service.

On Saturday, December 3, at 4:00 pm, the Higgins Wildcat Choir, will present a program of holiday music at Highland. The choir is made up of 4th and 5th graders from Higgins Elementary. The choir is under the direction of Tori Dorsey, who plays in our bell choir. Please join us in the sanctuary for this program. There will be a short reception following the program. We hope to see you there!

The bell choir is saddened by the passing of Bobby Cannon on October 17th. He was a smiling face in the congregation just about every Sunday morning. He loved talking with you during snack time and during the monthly potlucks. He participated in several skits put together for a variety of meals at the church. He thoroughly enjoyed the music at the church and would often tell me how much he enjoyed something I played or Mom and I played as a duet. And he enjoyed hearing the bells play, as well. The bell choir would like to express our heartfelt sympathy to Sara Cannon. Sara has been an important member of the bell choir since it was started. She also played with the quartet when we were able to all get together. Sara also participated in the chancel choir for many years. Sara, we, too, will miss seeing Bobby's smiling face in the congregation when we play.

Love and Prayers,

Becky Davis



November 2016 Highland Highlights

Sunday, November 6th: FALL BACK!
Daylight Savings Ends!

Tuesday, November 8th: ELECTION DAY!
Please Vote!

Wednesday, November 23rd:
No Bell Choir Practice!

Thursday, November 24th: THANKSGIVING DAY!
NO Pastor's Bible Study!
Office will be CLOSED!

Saturday, November 26th:
9:00 AM – Decorate Church for Christmas!
3 – 5 PM – 60th Birthday Party for Julie Davis

Sunday, November 27th:
First Sunday of Advent!

Weekly Schedule:

Sundays:

- 9:30 AM - Sunday School
- 10:30 AM - Worship Service
- 11:30 AM - Fellowship Time

Office Hours:

Mon. thru Thurs.; 8:30 am to noon
Phone: 903-595-3547
highlandprestyler@att.net
<http://www.tylerhighland.org>



4	Dave Smith	9	Jean Ayres
16	April Tompkins Linthicum	17	Julie Davis
20	Lee Johnson	30	Dorothy Glenn

DON'T FORGET!

Set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night (November 5th)! Daylight savings time ends Sunday, November 6th.



Fellowship Snacks

Blessed are those who share FELLOWSHIP in CHRIST, for GOD lives in their FRIENDSHIP. Please join together each Sunday after Worship for some conversation, laughs and to welcome our guests. Refreshments will be provided by the Fellowship committee.



NOTICE:

Due to Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 24th) being a national holiday and a time for being with our families, the church office will be **CLOSED** and there will be no Pastor's Bible Study.



The **DECEMBER 2016 Highland Herald submission DEADLINE** is **NOVEMBER 22nd!** **PLEASE** (Pretty Please?) submit your articles, information, events, etc. to your friendly Highland Secretary by this date! I would like to get the newsletter emailed and mailed no later than Wednesday, November 29th. **Thank you, Dorothy Ragan**



Please pray for Pvt. Ross Clayton, son of April Linthicum, and grandson of Chuck and Deb Tompkins who is serving in Kuwait. Also be in prayer for all of our other men and women in the Armed Forces. Also, please keep the Christians, Kurds, and Jews in your prayers in N. Iraq.



The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

James 5:16b NLT

Cancer Patients: Jonah Daily, John Davis, David Garvey, Jeff Hedges, Rita Kelly, Jan Park, Donna Richardson, Lee Shafer, Carl Trent, and Leon Welborn;
Continuing Concerns: Sara Cannon and family of Bobby Cannon and Family of Lesley Zerebny. **Also, pray for the following circumstances:** Presidential Election 2016, People looking for jobs, and people having financial difficulties.

(In the spirit of getting the best out of our prayer ministry, please submit names for the Prayer list, a brief reason and then a subsequent update to the request, by the monthly deadline for the Highland Herald. This will enable us to keep the list current and to give thanks for God's answers. Also submit updates for the weekly prayer list.)



items for November are **Diapers** and **Christmas in the Neighborhood!!** Volunteers are needed to sort/tag (etc.) **Coats for Kids**, Nov. 5th & 12th, and help in distribution of these coats on Nov. 19th.

The Blanket Drive runs from November 2016 to March 2016. More information is on the bulletin board. Monetary gifts are always accepted.



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The View from the Back Page

There is an advantage to titling my article "The View from the Back Page" - the view from the back is more toward memory and the past, not toward the unknown future. The past offers glimpses of eternal truths and certain patterns, yet the past cannot predict the future because time is not circular. It may not be absolutely linear, moving in a straight line, either, but rather meanders like a river. Just as creation follows the patterns God built into it, so history flows according to the God who is over it, beyond it, and yet also in it with His people.

I do not have a clue as to how some of the immediate decisions we make in this month or the months and years ahead will play out. Countless little decisions from years past and those decisions we make now will construct the bigger results that form the building blocks of history. Past patterns give us reasons to pause and have concern, for history has often been bloody and wicked and prone to disaster. Yet history also has patterns revealed by prophet's and apostle's voices, patterns of God's delivering and rescuing might and God's saving grace. It is frustrating that people tend to think of the Church as a "stand-by" for when necessary. Actually, the Church is the place where the good news of the Gospel enables stability of life, comfort of mind, glimpses of insight, and enduring hope for the future regardless of what is going on in our lives either on a worldly scale or in our own households.

People think that weekly habits don't make much difference. It is the little daily and weekly choices, however, that help set things in motion for the larger results in communities, cultures, nations, and even the world. The accumulation of choices in many places, some small and some large, can then be set off by the actions of a lone gunman or the last of a series of legislative acts. (Think World War I and the Great Depression.)

The fullness of the Gospel provides the solid ground for walking regardless of the situation. Our job is to help people see their need for that foundation.

Scott Mackey



November 2016

Highland Presbyterian Church

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 8:30 AM till Noon
 Sunday School 9:30 AM—Sunday Worship 10:30 AM



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 = Fall Back Sun., Nov. 6th  = HIGHLAND HERALD DEADLINE		1 6:30 PM - Prayer Shawl Meeting at Deb L's house	2 6 PM - Bell Practice	3	4  Dave Smith	5
6  Holy Communion 	7 7:00 PM Ladies Evening Circle	8 8:30AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Ladies' Morning Circle 11:30 AM Ladies' Out to Eat ELECTION DAY!	9  Jean Ayres 6 PM - Bell Practice	10 10AM - Pastor's Bible Study	11  Veteran's Day	12
13	14	15 6 PM - Session Meeting	16  April Tompkins Linthicum 6 PM - Bell Practice	17  Julie Davis	18	19
20  Lee Johnson 	21	22  DEADLINE!	23 NO BELL PRACTICE!	24 OFFICE CLOSED! NO Pastor's Bible Study!  Thanksgiving Day	25	26  9:00 AM -Decorate the church for Christmas 3-5 PM: 60th Birthday Party for Julie Davis
27  First Sunday of Advent!	28	29	30  Dorothy Glenn 6 PM - Bell Practice			