

## THE HIGHLANDER

VOLUME 46, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2024

### HAPPENINGS AT HIGHLANDS

### From the Pastor



How much time do you spend looking at your windshield when you drive? Most of us don't think about it until we see a crack or some dead bugs or dirt that's accumulated. We look through it all the time, but we rarely think about the glass we're looking through, despite the importance it has. If it were green or blue or red, it would dramatically alter the way we see the world.

During our Wednesday soup suppers, we're going to be watching Beauty and the Beast, a classic movie about a daring heroine and a tormented beast. We'll break the movie up into three parts, and each week we'll have a short discussion about the ways we see Christianity portrayed and what we learn about faith through the movie. The goal of all of this is to think about the lens through which we look at the world. All of our best stories are ultimately a re-telling of the Gospel story—they include love and redemption and the pursuit of the beloved. The books we read and the movies we watch are all a version of this same basic story. We love these stories because there's a story wired inside of us, set there by our Creator, and our hearts resonate whenever we see echoes of it throughout our lives. When we watch a compelling movie or read a great book, we're stirred because it's whispering something to our souls that we know to be true. We can boldly hope our deepest hopes because the world is telling us that this is the true story of creation.

My hope with our Wednesday movie studies is that we all spend time training our hearts and minds to look for the Gospel story in the stories we see. The more we learn how to recognize the elements of the Gospel, the more excited we'll be when we notice these things in the world, and the better we'll be able to identify to our friends, family members, and neighbors that their favorite stories all point to the greatest story the world has ever known, the story of a God who loved God's children so much that God wrote himself into the story so that those beloved children could be saved, no matter the price, because they were worth it to God.

(continued)

From the Pastor (continued)

That's you. You're the one who is saved by the God who loves you too much to let you go. May the books we read and the movies we watch remind us of that central truth.

In Christ, Keith



### **Soup Suppers**

Highlands will hold a series of Lenten soup suppers on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. on March 6, 13, and 20. Members and friends are invited. Attendees are encouraged to sign up to bring soup, crackers, or bread.

Following the meal, we will watch portions of the movie "Beauty and the Beast." The gathering will be dismissed around 7:30 p.m.

### **Easter Lilies**

There's still time to place your Easter lily order. Each plant costs \$11.00; if you would like to, you may dedicate your lily in honor or memory of loved ones. Order forms are available in the narthex and should be returned to the church office by noon on Thursday, March 7.

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### **Smoky Row Food Pantry**

The Pantry is open Wednesdays from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 7:00—10:00 a.m.

### March Needs

- · Non-perishable food staples (beans, corn, rice, pasta)
- · Baby items (diapers 4-5-6, wipes)
- · Toiletries (soap, shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper, etc.)
- · Winter coats, hats, gloves
- Lightbulbs

Rice and pasta are especially appreciated since the Pantry serves rice or pasta to 200 families each week

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Pat Henneforth, Editor Elaine Gallup, Assistant

Articles, news reports, and editorial suggestions are welcome and may be submitted to the church office directly to the editor. The closing date for material is the 20th of each month.



### March Adult Bible Reading Schedule

March 3: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19:1-14 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 March 10:

Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

March 17: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12

Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

March 24: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11

John 12:12-16; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47

Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

Acts 10:34-43; Isaiah 25:6-9 March 31:

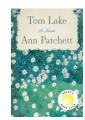
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18; Mark 16:1-8

Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 114:1-8

1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Luke 24:13-49



### March Book Club Meeting



Tuesday, March 19

6:30 p.m.

Bravo! Italian Kitchen

3000 Hayden Road, Columbus

Please contact Barb Miller to make reservations.

### **Men's Business Group**

Thursday, March 14

6:30 p.m.

Joe's Pub & Grill

9890 Brewster Lane, Powell



Contact Bill Nordquist to make reservations.

### **Ladies Night Out**



Tuesday, April 2

6:30 p.m.

Café Istanbul

6125 Riverside Drive, Dublin

Contact Barb Miller to make a reservation.

### The Season of Lent

Lent is — the season of discipline.

Lent consists in *doing* something, not merely in doing *without* something.

Lent is a serious season—a time when we reflect on what God has done for us in Jesus Christ, when we recall our own baptism into the life and death of Christ.

The word "Lent" comes from the Old English *lencten*, meaning "the lengthening" of the days of spring. Lent originated in the early church: people felt that a period of discipline was appropriate preparation for Easter Day, so by the third century six days were allotted. Then it was extended to 36 days, to represent a 10 percent "tithe" of the year; then it became 40 days. Ash Wednesday was added in the eighth century. Since Sunday is traditionally a "little Easter," the six Sundays are not counted in the Lenten fast and are separate from the 40 days. Hence, we say "the first Sunday *in* Lent."

Shrove Tuesday, although never a part of the church's calendar, from earliest times was an occasion when people confessed their sins and were "shriven" (absolved). After confession, a feast was held—one last fling before eggs, milk, and meat were excluded from the diet. When the ban was lifted on Easter Day, there was a rush to get those long-denied items, particularly eggs. And so was begun the tradition of Easter eggs. The liturgical color for the season of Lent is violet (for penitence).

### Liturgical Calendar A.D. 2024

February 13 Shrove Tuesday	A day of feasting, celebration, and confession
February 14 Ash Wednesday	A day of fasting and penitence; the beginning of Lent
March 24 Palm/Passion	A reminder of the nearness of the Crucifixion Sunday
March 25 (Monday)	The day of authority (Jesus' cleansing the Temple)
March 26 (Tuesday)	The day of conflicts (verbal attacks from Jesus' enemies)
March 27 (Wednesday)	The day of silence (Jesus retreated to Bethany.)
March 28 (Thursday)	MAUNDY THURSDAY — Jesus' last meal with his disciples
	when he gave a "mandate": "This do in remembrance of me."
March 29 (Friday)	GOOD FRIDAY—The Crucifixion
March 30 (Saturday)	The day in the tomb (Lent ends at noon.)
March 31	EASTER DAY—ALLELUIA! The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!

SUGGESTED READING: The Gospel According to Mark



### **Sedona Grace**

The Sedona Grace Foundation provides dog and cat food to central Ohio food pantries so that families experiencing hard times do not have to give up their pets because they cannot afford to feed them. Your donation of pet food (they cannot accept litter or other non-food items) at Highlands will be delivered to the Smoky Row Food Pantry.

### **March Birthdays and Anniversaries**

### **Birthdays Anniversaries** 3 17 Linda and Steve Masonbrink Esambi Epie 8 Annie Ruhl 12 Laura Ward Dr. Suzanne Wilson 15 John Taracko Whitney Nkweteyim 17 24 Sarah Énright Cheryl Ellison 26 Julie Sharpe Torski 27

If you would like to have your birthday or wedding anniversary included in the monthly lists, please contact the office.

### **March Adult Education**

Adult Education continues at 9:15 on Sunday mornings. Note: there will not be a meeting on Easter Sunday, March 31



### **Artists Wanted**

If you are a church member and are interested in displaying your artwork on the wall in the family room, please contact Bill Nordquist.

Art needs to be ready to be hung on the wall and artists are asked to supply an artist's statement telling a little about themselves, their art, and/or the creative process. The openings are on the second Sunday of the month in conjunction with fellowship hour after church, and exhibits stay up for approximately three-and-a-half weeks.

### **Time Change**

Daylight Saving Time is coming! We'll turn our clocks forward one hour at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 10.



Why at 2 a.m.? In an interview with *Time Magazine*, author Michael Downing cited his book, "Spring Forward: The Annual Madness of Daylight Saving Time," to explain how Amtrak and the railroads were the main reason clocks change at 2 a.m. for DST. There were no trains leaving the station at 2 a.m. on Sundays in New York City when Daylight Saving Time was established. "Sunday morning at 2 a.m. was when they would interrupt the least amount of train travel around the country," Downing said.

### **Women's Bible Study Group**



The Women's Bible Study Group meets at 11:00 a.m. on Thursdays in the family room. They are using the book, "Significant: Six Ordinary Women, One Extraordinary God" by Rachel Risner.

You don't need to have the book to attend and participate. If you have questions, please contact Barb, Cheryl, or Bobbi.

### **Our Daily Bread**

The March/April/May issue of Our Daily Bread is available on the counter in the narthex. There is also a limited number of "The Hope of Easter" edition. Feel free to pick up a copy of each for yourself and for a friend.



### Children's Corner

Highlands' Easter egg hunt is being planned for after the service on March 31. We have plenty of plastic eggs; we just need candy to put in them and volunteers to fill them. Volunteers are also needed at 9:30 a.m. on March 31 to hide the eggs. Please let Brenda know if you can provide candy or help out.



Discussion has begun about this year's weekend vacation Bible school. The theme is "O Taste and See: The Fruits of the Spirit." There will be more details in upcoming issues of The Highlander.

### **March Mission: Expanding Our Focus**

**519!!** That's how many pairs of socks Highlanders donated to "No Cold Feet." Thank you, Highlands!

Poverty knows no boundaries, so during March the Mission Committee's focus will be on Heifer International, a global non-profit whose mission is to eradicate hunger and poverty throughout the world while caring for the earth.



Millions of people around the world still lack access to **clean drinking water**.



For many around the globe, **kitchen gardens** have become lifelines providing much-needed fresh food.



The decline in **honeybees** worldwide threatens global food security. Heifer International addresses these, and so many other, issues.

You can help by donating to Heifer. Please make your check payable to Highlands with a note on the check that it is for Heifer. Checks need to be in by Sunday, March 31, to ensure they are included in the check that Highlands sends to Heifer.



# MARCH



Sat	2	6			16					23			30				
Fri	<b>-</b>	8			12					22			29				
Thu		7	11:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study Group	7:00 p.m. Session	14	11:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study Group	6:30 p.m. Men's Business Group	7:30 p.m. Bells		21	11:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study Group	7:30 p.m. Bells	28 (Maundy Thursday)	11:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study	7:00 p.m. Worship		
Wed		9	6:00 p.m. Soup Supper		13	6:00 p.m. Soup Supper				20	6:00 p.m. Soup Supper		27				
Tue		rv			12					19	6:30 p.m. Book Club		26				
Mon		4			11					18			25				
Sun		3 9.15 a m Adult Ed	10:30 a.m. Worship including communion 11:30 a.m. Deacons	Sermon available online	10 0:15 = m Adult Ed	10:30 a.m. Morship 11:30 a.m. Fellowship	Mission Worship and	Music Congregational Life	Sermon available online	17 0:15 2 m Aduilt Ed	10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting	Sermon available online	<b>24</b> 9:15 a.m. Adult Ed	10:30 a.m. Worship		<b>31 (Easter)</b> 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Egg Hunt	Sermon available online

Highlands Presbyterian Church 6909 Smoky Row Road Columbus, OH 43235



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