

# What's Happening at *Highland*

MAY 2022

## Celebrating Marcia Nance

*Sunday, May 15*  
*10:30 Organ Recital*  
*11:00 Worship*  
*12:00 Reception*



Marcia Nance has faithfully served as Highland's organist for 44 years and is retiring this month. She is including some of her favorite pieces, hymns, and anthems in these final weeks as our organist. Her last Sunday at the organ will be May 15. That morning, Marcia will offer about 25 minutes of organ music beginning at 10:30. The 11:00 service will include wonderful organ pieces, and everyone is invited to stay after worship for a reception in Marcia's honor.

## Highland's New Pastor Announced

On behalf of our Staff Parish Relations Committee, Lay Leader Ryan Lockett shared with our congregation on Sunday, April 24, a message from Bishop Leonard Fairley and the district superintendents of our North Carolina Conference. As we anticipate Alan's retirement in June, we look forward to welcoming Rev. Dr. John Tyson as our new pastor beginning June 29. We look forward to sharing more information about Dr. Tyson as we prepare for his arrival in the coming weeks.

### Office Hours

The church office is open 9 AM - 12 PM, Monday - Friday. If you need assistance or to conduct onsite church business outside those hours, please contact a member of the staff to ensure that you will have the assistance you need.

### Pastoral concerns -

Alan's cell 919-210-9120

### Business Office concerns

- Jim's cell 919-606-0135

### Facilities concerns -

Tom's cell 919-624-1405

# A Note from Pastor Amanda

In October it was announced at Highland that there were several changes coming: Alan is retiring, and the Associate position would be eliminated, and Highland would be receiving only one pastor in June. While it has been odd having everyone aware of the transition for so long, it has afforded me time to really consider and discern what comes next. After much time and prayer, I have discerned that for the next season of my life, I need to step away from the local church. After serving under

appointment for the last 8 years, I will not be taking another appointment when I leave Highland in June. Through our baptism we are all called to serve. Our calls to serve can be carried out inside or outside of the local church. Some calls are for life, some are for a season. I am grateful for my time at Highland and for this community. This has not been an easy season having a pandemic stretching across two of my 3.5 years here, but I am grateful for the lessons learned, the lives shared, and

many of the memories I will carry with me. I have formed some wonderful friendships, met some of the most interesting people, and have had the privilege of seeing you as a congregation live into your faith in a season of uncertainty as you've continued the work of justice and mercy, of love and grace, of welcome and affirmation.

The Prophet Isaiah proclaims: "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" A long chapter is closing but a new page is about to turn. The details are still being worked out of what this next season will look like for me, but I am excited to see what awaits on

the horizon. May this next season - for Highland, for Alan, for myself - may it be fruitful, bring healing and renewal. May God continue the work that was begun in each of us.

*Amanda*

## Coming up in June:

- June 5 - Pentecost Picnic and organist Bill Shelton's first Sunday
- June 12 - Graduate Sunday
- June 19 - Alan & Amanda's last Sunday & reception
- June 27 - July 1 - Vacation Bible School



## Easter Sunday



## Meet our Homeowner!

We're excited to learn that Habitat has selected the family who will live in the home we are currently helping to build. Courtney Maready and her 5-year-old son Adrian look forward to moving into their new home after its completion this summer. Courtney is a teacher at South Lakes Elementary school and an active member and lay leader at United Church in Apex. We look forward to seeing Courtney out at the site on upcoming workdays!



# Finance Update

As we begin the second quarter of 2022, this report is provided to give the congregation an overview of our financial situation; both how we finished 2021 and the approved budget and forecast for 2022. In summary, as 2021 finished, we have succeeded in meeting all current financial obligations. Happily, this was accomplished even though we have come through a very difficult time for our church, with diminished member participation in worship, Sunday School, and significant reductions of all other in-person activities. Finishing 2020 and entering 2021, we had experienced income shortfalls and reduced church attendance -- shortfalls that came with the progressing impact of the pandemic. It was assumed that pledges and gifts would most likely continue to suffer from ongoing reduced worship attendance. Reduced rents and fees for the use of the church buildings by outside groups also were anticipated. Our financial situation has benefitted substantially for the past two years from the availability of the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loans by the US Government. The combination of these helped to balance ongoing costs of operation, providing additional cash that enabled us to pay clergy and staff salaries and benefits in 2021 and enter 2022 on relatively sound financial footing. The combination of the PPP loans and the continuing faithful stewardship of many of our congregation helped put us in this position. This support continued through 2021 and is projected to continue through 2022, based on the pledges we have received so far. As you may have seen in the e-news, our second PPP loan has been forgiven. While this was anticipated, it's good to have this confirmed.

The following summary statement of 2021 financial results also includes the 2022 budget approved at the Church Council meeting of February 6. The two columns of this report provide an overview of how we finished 2021, plus our budgeted outlook for 2022. Please note that the 2021 results are not yet audited and are subject to possible minor adjustments. Still, we believe the numbers provided are a dependable representation of the ultimate final, audited results.

As we continue through 2022, it also should be noted that some staff reductions will be made during the year. All budgeted expenditures will continue to be carefully monitored and controlled as possible. The current budget anticipates a deficit for the year which will be covered by cash reserves. We are very hopeful that with diminishing Covid restrictions, participation in worship plus other church-located activities will bring a restoration of more historical activities and support.

Although many cost reductions already are planned, several positive changes will occur. Included in the 2022 budget is a very modest increase in salary and related compensation for the lay staff members of our

church, who have not received any pay increase in approximately five years. Also, our 2022 total building operating expenses are increased by \$23,000. Much of this is related to increased Insurance cost plus the increasing cost of utilities due to the projected return of greater building usage and projections of increasing utility rates.

We hope that this summary overview will help all to understand better our current financial situation and our projected outlook for the coming months. We plan to make information on our status and situation — most likely on a quarterly basis through the balance of 2022 — but will communicate on any special current events or concerns as they occur.

We got through 2021, but we are not “out of the woods” yet. If you have not completed payment of your 2021 pledge, please do that ASAP. If you have not yet made your pledge for 2022, please consider making that commitment.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (919) 345-4708 or jmadden1@nc.rr.com.

John Madden  
Chair, Finance Committee

	2021 Actual	2022 Budgeted
<b>Income</b>		
<b>Contributions</b>		
Pledged Contributions	\$ 733,944	\$ 756,280
Non-pledged Contributions	159,142	106,478
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>893,086</b>	<b>862,758</b>
<b>Other Funding</b>		
All Other Income Sources - HCC Shared Income, Rental Fees, etc.	190,224	190,600
US Government Payroll Protection Plan Loan	155,000	-
<b>Total Other Funding</b>	<b>345,224</b>	<b>190,600</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,238,310</b>	<b>1,053,358</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
<b>Ministry Expenditures</b>		
United Methodist Shared Ministry & Outreach Funds	148,901	142,723
Total Clergy Compensation & Benefits	263,382	220,530
Children's & Youth Ministry*	99,084	106,971
Music & Worship Ministry*	90,157	91,669
Other Ministries & Outreach*	55,270	67,293
<b>Total Ministry Expenditures</b>	<b>656,794</b>	<b>629,186</b>
<b>Other Expenditures</b>		
Staff Benefits (Insurance, Retirement, etc.)	92,696	88,468
Office & Administrative Expenses*	145,412	145,347
Property Expense & Maintenance*	269,693	305,688
<b>Total Other Expenditures</b>	<b>507,801</b>	<b>539,503</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>1,164,595</b>	<b>1,168,689</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 73,715</b>	<b>\$ (115,331)</b>

\*Line items include the corresponding salaries.

# May Birthdays

Chris Richards	05/03	Scott Deuel	05/19
Anderson La Rocca	05/05	Bud Driggers	05/19
Georgie McKenzie	05/05	Anna Letchworth	05/20
Andrew Tucker	05/05	Troy March	05/20
Robert Hearn	05/06	Ann Pearce	05/20
Mike Hughes	05/06	Kay Burgess	05/21
Helen Morrill	05/07	Aidan Cronin-Hudgins	05/21
John Hunter	05/08	Allison Schuster	05/21
Junko Takahashi	05/08	Maddie Driggers	05/22
Abby Bugger	05/09	Andrew Wilkinson	05/22
Linda Cooksey	05/09	Camilla Matzinger	05/23
Anna Yarborough	05/09	Creighton Wellman	05/23
Judy Allen	05/10	Thad McDonald	05/27
San Lian Lian	05/11	Debbie Sykes	05/27
Peggy Reaugh	05/11	Sharon Lee	05/28
Mary Liner	05/12	Kay Driggers	05/29
Kathy Langfield	05/13	Lanny Piper	05/29
Douglas Templeton	05/13	Vance Clayton	05/30
Glenda Johnson	05/17	Ellen Fortenberry	05/30
Debbie Carroll	05/18	Joyce Faucette	05/31
Ila Krueger	05/18	John Shutt	05/31
Ken Schuster	05/18	Sydney Belle White	05/31



# Dinner with the Disciples

*On April 22, we welcomed families for a 1st-century dinner with disciples who journeyed with Jesus*



## Remember in Prayer:

Cleveland Kingsberry, Dee Maronpot, Peggy Reaugh, Mark Adamson, O'Dell and Amy Massey, Jacob, Laura, Miles and Ellie McPherson, Keith Pendleton, Katherine and Lillian Robbins, Bonnie Anderson, Lisa Anthony, Melva Armstrong (Amy Massey's cousin), Bill Babcock, Jason Christian Bayer, Brady Beck (son of Bev and Keith Beck), Debbie Beavers (friend of Harriet Mills), Paul Braun, Charles Cimerro, Archie Clark, Helen Cook, James Cornell (Amy Massey's son), Dot Correll, Sharon Cox, Liz Deaton Crossley (Beth and George Deaton's daughter), Ginny Davis, Beth Deaton, Amy Denson (Pam and Aaron Brothers' daughter), Phyllis and Alex Edwards, Cleo Flowers (Kevin Flowers's mother), Bill George, Doug and Pat Hoffman, Glenda Johnson, Doris Kruger, Jeanine Lueke, Johanna Mann, Georgie McKenzie, Dennis McLain, Mary McLeod, Dot McGee, Patrick Moholt, Linda Moran, Brenda Murphy (Joyce Hicks's sister), Rob Parady (Tristan Parady's father), John Person, Carrie Ponder (Ruth Moore's

mother), Billie Poole, Tammy and Greg Poole (friends of Chuck Stuber), Gail Pritchard (Vicky Earp's mother), Candi Scott, Jeanne Shorter, Frances Shutt, Jo Anne Swartz, Jonathan Taylor (Joanie Loftin's brother), Roz Thompson, Marge Walker, Mary Ward, Jane Webb, Preston, Conor and Sarah Mann Willcox.

We pray for peace, we pray for wisdom for world leaders, and we pray for those impacted by war, as lifted up by John & Julia Shutt: the people of Ukraine, Natalia Mazur, Yuliya Sosina, Marina Baranova, Irina Merkulova, Olga and Vlad Timoshenko, Tatiana Grevtsova, Yuri and Irina Zabara, President Volodymyr Zelensky, and all their families.

Please also remember in prayer those serving in our military: Christian Bugger, Robert Boone, Erich Dix, James Noneman, Matthew Bawden, Ryan Shorter, Margarita Shorter