

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF HIGHLAND



# THE LARGER VIEW

# December

Volume 11 Issue 11

# 2018

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**Special points of interest:**

- Christmas Joy**
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing**
- Mission's Adopt-A-Family**
- Poinsettias**
- Reverse Advent Calendar**
- Christmas Cantata**
- Offering Envelopes**

**DECEMBER 2—1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Adult Study - 9:00 AM  
 Worship (Comm) & K-6th grade Church School- 10:30 AM  
 CONGREGATIONAL MTG. TO ELECT OFFICERS  
 Coffee Fellowship - 11:30 AM  
 Faith Development - 11:45 AM  
 Hospitality - 11:45 AM  
 Youth Group - 5:00 PM (Parent's Night Out)

**DECEMBER 9 - 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Adult Study - 9:00 AM  
 CHRISTMAS CANTATA - 10:30  
 Coffee Fellowship & SOUP SUNDAY - 11:30 AM  
 W & M - 11:45 AM  
 NWI Youth Chorus - 1 to 4 PM

**DECEMBER 16 - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Adult Study - 9:00 AM  
 Worship & K-6th grade Church School - 10:30 (INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS)  
 Coffee Fellowship - 11:30 AM  
 Youth Group - 1 to 4 PM (Baking cookies/caroling)

**DECEMBER 23 - 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Adult Study - 9:00 AM  
 Worship & K-6th grade Church School - 10:30  
 Coffee Fellowship - 11:30 AM

**DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE**

Christmas Eve Service - 7:00 PM

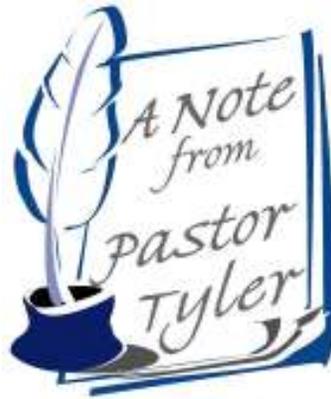
**DECEMBER 30**

Adult Study - 9:00 AM  
 Worship & K-6th grade Church School - 10:30  
 Coffee Fellowship & SOUP SUNDAY - 11:30 AM



*First Presbyterian Church  
 of Highland  
 8727 Delaware Street  
 Highland, IN 46322*

*The Mission of First Presbyterian Church of Highland is to be  
 the HEART, HANDS, and FEET of Jesus Christ*



Dear All,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Let me begin by expressing my deep gratitude for all of you and your participation physically, spiritually, or both in the service of my installation as your pastor. You showed up, sang, prayed, listened, laid hands, and supported me. You also did an amazing job of welcoming and hosting my loved ones and participants from the presbytery. The food and fellowship were wonderful. So, from the bottom of my heart, thank you!

During the service of installation, Rev. Katie Hartwell preached about Esther's decision to go through a time of fasting and reflection and then to use her position to speak up on behalf of her people who were about to be persecuted. As we enter into the season of Advent, I want us as a congregation to look at Esther's model. Advent is often thought of as a time of reflection, in which Christians ponder a world on the verge of the Incarnation. We commemorate this time of darkness waiting for the light that was to be born in a stable. At any given point in history, there have been situations of darkness in desperate need of light. Right now, though, the darkness seems more all-consuming than usual. Despair, violence, brokenness, and hatred seem to be the rule rather than the exception in this country and across the globe. It is important for us to take time to acknowledge what is happening, to reflect upon the roots of these situations and their impacts, and to look for the light of transformation.

After Esther spent time in reflection, she acted. She spoke to King Ahasuerus on behalf of her people and prevented their destruction. Our reflection during Advent should also prepare us for action. After all, it is the time that we wait with expectant hope for the light to break through the darkness, for the Word to become flesh, for our savior to be born! With this revelation before us, we must recognize that the darkness does not have the final say. We also must understand that as the Church we are the body of Christ, the continued Incarnation. It is thus upon us to act, to be the people of hope, peace, joy, and love—as our candles so aptly remind us each week.

So, let us reflect upon the darkness, including its roots and impacts. Let us care for those most harmed by the darkness. Let us strategize about how to end the darkness. And at the end of our reflection, let us act. Let us be bearers of the light!

In Christ,

*Rev. Tyler Orem*



- Session members gave thanks for the Installation Service and celebration on Sunday, September 18th for our pastor, Rev. Tyler Orem. We also thanked those who helped with the reception following the service.
- Session approved the wedding of former member Ryan Beach and his fiancé Safire for October 12, 2019.
- Technology news.....Our new website has launched! Come check it out at [www.fpchighland.org](http://www.fpchighland.org) . We are also on Facebook. And we have a new look to our emails through MailChimp.
- We are looking for more volunteers to help run the sound system during worship. If you are interested, contact the Worship and Music Ministry or any of the Trustees.
- Two endowment grants were approved. One was for Mission in the amount of \$1000 to help in Hurricane Relief through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and the other was for a new office computer as the current one was outdated and running slowly.



### TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Month of  
October 31, 2018

	Month of October	Monthly Budget	Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$9,386.79	\$11,586.00	\$109,795.64
Operating Expenses	11,281.57	12,719.00	94,415.30
Excess (Deficit)	(\$1,894.78)		\$15,380.34

## Rev. Tyler's Installation Service and Celebration





Dr. Steen's 95th Birthday celebration reception was hosted by the Endowment Committee in honor of his birthday and work and dedication he has given to the Endowment Fund. Donations to the Endowment Fund can be given in honor of Dr. Steen's Birthday.





## **Gifts given in the months of November to the Endowment Fund include:**

In Memory of: Don & Mary Davison, Jim Corten, John Gordon  
In Memory of Jim Ham on his 75th birthday

## **These gifts were given by the following donors:**

Vince & Debbie Catania, Lee Ann Cheesebrough, Nancy Cox, Eason & Nancy Engle, Carolyn Ham, Joseph & Linda Koselke, Nicolette Lindinger, Rich & Dee Lynch, Arletta Schaefer, Linda Skaggs, Marie Smith, Dr. & Mrs. Lowell Steen, John & Judy Toren

## **In Celebration of Dr. Lowell Steen's 95th Birthday:**

Vince & Debbie Catania, Lee Ann Cheesebrough, Eason & Nancy Engle, Leroy Fassett, Carolyn Ham, Linda Steen Heister, Laura Jones, Bonnie Perryman, Craig & Heather Scott, Linda Skaggs, The Sleeman Family, Jay & Jean Smith, Cheryl Steen, John & Judy Toren

## **In Lieu of Sunday Flowers:**

Fred & Carol Callaway, in honor of their granddaughter Emma's 5th birthday





## Trustee Happenings

**Sound System:** We installed a new pulpit microphone and ordered replacement speakers for the sanctuary. After we install new speakers, we will be able to record worship services more efficiently in addition to having better sound quality. Thanks to Dennis O'Donnell, our resident, self-taught sound engineer for working with Broadway Music to improve our sound system. We are seeking volunteers to operate the sound equipment and will schedule training after the new speakers are installed. Contact Music and Worship or the Trustees if interested.

**Light Bulbs:** Jeff Savage, our resident electrician, has been working diligently to install LED light bulbs. He is rewiring fluorescent light fixtures to accept LED bulbs and finished the north and center buildings. Thanks to Jeff and Winnie for their assistance.

**New Computer:** We recently replaced the office computer. Thanks to Debbie Catania for writing the Endowment funding request for \$1500 and to Deb and Vince for picking the computer up for the church.

**Handrail:** The Judy Toren handrail has been installed on the pad at the kitchen door. This completes the cement project and remaining funds are being returned to the Endowment Fund for other projects.

**Pest Control:** This is time of year mice find their way into the buildings. Guardian Pest Control has been out and we set out mice traps. Please make sure doors are closed and food handlers clean up kitchen and other areas and properly dispose of garbage in the outside dumpster.

**Landscaping:** We are seeking quotes to refresh the landscaping especially at the front entrances.

**Snow:** We have had our first snow event which is a strain on our 2018 budget. We caution everyone to be careful on the sidewalks or entrance stairs.

**Projects:** If you have a facility issue needing attention, please contact a Trustee and we'll see if we can help.  
Eason, Deb, Dennis, Winnie, Jeff, Jerry and Josh

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## Shelter Report for November

Judy Toren, Lee Ann Cheesebrough and Cheryl Steen cooked for 41 people at the Shelter on November 8, 2018. The meal of Chicken Noodle Casserole was well received. Canned peas, rolls and butter, salad and apple dump cake along with the hard boiled eggs and milk completed the menu. We are always very grateful for the extra items that the Episcopal Church provides us with. This time we were the recipient of 6 chickens and a case of peas. It is a blessing to not have to buy all the items we serve.

John Toren and Jeff Savage assisted with the serving along with Cheryl Steen and Judy Toren. Welcome aboard Jeff! We really needed the extra set of hands!!



# CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

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## CHURCH LEADERS—PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

In the lead up the Christmas, many of us spend time in search of the perfect gift - the gift that communicates to friends and family how much we know and love them. Jesus came to live among us, bringing light into darkness, and reconciliation to God and to one another. A perfect gift from a gracious God. As important as gifts to loved ones are, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) gives throughout the year through the Christmas Joy Offering, drawing us back to the manger and God’s perfect gift to us.

During this Advent Season, we celebrate leadership; past, present and future through support of the Christmas Joy Offering. We do so because church leaders greatly impact our lives of faith, walking with us down the path to be more like Jesus. The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s and distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions. Text JOY to 56512 to learn more or to give to the Christmas Joy Offering or visit [www.pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://www.pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



Ministry of Mission will be sponsoring the Mitten Tree again this year from November 25th to December 23rd. Please help the children in our community keep warm this winter by donating hats, gloves, mittens and scarves. Thank you!



## Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign

2018 will mark FPCH's 30<sup>th</sup> year of bell ringing for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign. Our record of volunteerism for this cause is remarkable and has been recognized by both local and Chicago regional Salvation Army leadership. We will have the opportunity to continue our tradition of aiding the Army in their good work ringing at the south door of Strack's in Highland from 10:00 am to 6:00pm, Wednesday through Friday through December 21<sup>st</sup>. Watch for the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Don't miss this opportunity to be the "heart, hands and feet of Christ" as we strive to help our neighbors in need.

The Ministry of Mission  
Project Coordinators -- Jill Elman and John Toren



## Habitat Christmas Project

From October 30<sup>th</sup> until November 2<sup>nd</sup>, our congregation, in conjunction with the Hammond Associate Chapter of Tri-Kappa, worked at The Habitat ReStore to get ready for their Holiday Open House that was on Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We also had several non-affiliated people join in the fun. So there really is something for everyone to do.

This year, we decorated 27 Christmas trees and set up their display window for Christmas. All of the items had been donated, so needless to say, we had a lot to go through and many hours of untangling lights. Bows were made again this year by Tri-Kappa to supplement the trees when we run out of ornaments.

We helped the ReStore make \$3,013.00 the day of the Open House and they will continue to sell the trees and the other decorations until Christmas.

A special thank you to all the ladies who baked cookies for the Restore Open House. They supply the hot chocolate and we add the sweets for a very festive day.

Hopefully next year you could put us on your to-do list and join in on the fun. It doesn't cost you anything but some time and patience. You also get a great lunch compliments of the ReStore!!





**TO ALL CHRISTMAS ELVES!  
CHRISTMAS IS ONLY FOUR WEEKS AWAY!**

Who is ready to shop?

Mission needs your help getting two families ready for Christmas. We have 4 adults and 8 children to buy gifts for this year.

Please come down to Fellowship Hall after worship and sign up for items you wish to donate to make their Christmas very special.

Sign ups are through December 9<sup>th</sup>. Bring the unwrapped gifts to Fellowship Hall. We hope to have all gifts and food ready to deliver by December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**LET'S MAKE THIS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR  
THE TWO FAMILIES.**

***MINISTRY OF MISSION***



**DECEMBER**

**JANUARY**

- \*2 Parent’s Night Out Fundraiser 4 to 7 PM  
Cookie Making
- \*16 1 to 4 PM Baking Cookies and Christmas  
Caroling

- 6 Talent Show preparations begins
- 20 Talent Show prep



**FROM THE MOUTHS OF BABES....**

*(These are excerpts from sermons given by the Youth on Mission Trip Sunday, July 1st)*

I feel so blessed to have gotten to know these kids, especially Rodriquez. In the book of John, chapter 14, verse 27, it reads “God is our refuge and strength, and a present help in struggle.” Whenever we think of these kids we must believe that God will always be watching over them, helping them through their struggles. I know we did what we could in the 5 days we spent at Camp Washington, Cincinnati, but there’s so much more I wish we could do. Mission Trips have always been about making a mark on the places you travel to and I know this was a successful Mission Trip because we did just that. I know we spread God’s love to that city and those kids and they most definitely spread it back to us. ~Kayla Polen



## Quirky Quarters Halloween Party

Twelve youth enjoyed learning about All Saints Day, playing games, singing Halloween songs to Christmas tunes, apple bobbing, pumpkin painting and a Spook Walk created by the Senior High Youth Group! Delicious tacos cooked by Jay & Jean Smith and fingers cookies made by Charlotte Abernethy were also on the menu. This was Faith Development Ministry's second Quirky Quarters for ages kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, held on Sunday October 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 PM. A huge thank you to everyone who helped plan and carry out this event!

Mark your calendars for the next Quirky Quarters on January 13, 2019 from 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Come and Follow the Light!





It's time to order your Christmas Poinsettias! Lansing Florist is offering red and white poinsettias for \$20.00.

This is a good way to honor or remember loved ones. Donations may also be made in LIEU of flowers. Your order and money are due in the church office by Monday, December 3rd

**POINSETTIA ORDER FORM**  
**(Please Print CLEARLY)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

	Number	Price	Total
Red	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
White	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
Donation in LIEU of flowers			\$ _____
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline: Monday, December 3, 2018**

First Presbyterian Church of Highland  
8727 Delaware Street  
Highland, Indiana 46322



The Choir will be practicing for the Christmas Cantata on Saturday, December 8th at 10:00 AM



Please join First Presbyterian Church and the Sanctuary Choir for the Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 9th at 10:30 AM.

Be sure to invite your family, friends and neighbors as we make a joyful noise to our Lord!



We are looking for some volunteers to help run the sound system on Sunday mornings and other occasions such as weddings and funerals. The trustees will do the training. Please contact Dennis O'Donnell or Carol Callaway if you are willing to help.



Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to Hang the Greens on November 25th, especially to Charlotte Abernethy and the Youth. We couldn't have done it without you! Please mark January 6, 2019, on your calendars; that's the day when we will take everything down and put it away for another year.



The Christmas Eve Service will be on Monday, December 24th at 7:00 PM.





If you don't want to buy a traditional Christmas gift and want to try something different, fill a bag from the Reverse Advent Calendar and donate to our Pantry on Christmas Eve.

# REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.  
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A  
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM





The 2019 Pledge Envelopes will be available for pick up in the Narthex starting, Sunday, December 9th. Please help us keep costs down in the office by picking up and delivering envelopes for members that are unable to do so.

*Thank You!*



**FREE-WILL DONATION SOUP SALES**

There will be Soup available on December 9th & 30th following worship in Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheets to make soup can be found in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.



The Gordon family wishes to thank the members of FPCH for their condolences and concerns. Although during the last few months, John had difficulty hearing, he enjoyed being at church during worship and chatting with friends during fellowship hour. John found peace in God's house and truly enjoyed the attention from fellow members. Knowing he was loved provided great comfort to his children Nancy, Greg, David, Tom, Pat and Don and their families. Thanks to everyone who attended the memorial service, visiting the family and expressing their condolences. We also thank Tyler for his comforting words and helping the family remember our time with our father.

With Love

*Nancy Engle*

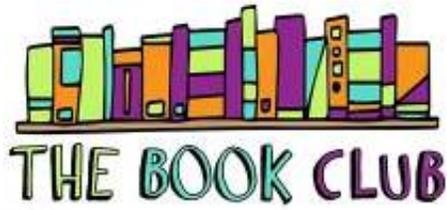
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Dearest friends,

Paul and I would like to thank all of you for your well wishes and concern about our daughter. Our move has gone okay - it is not an easy task. However we have unpacked and know pretty much where to find things. Chris is doing well. The chemo gave her a rough time and the doctor had to decrease the doses by 50% so she could tolerate it. Her attitude is extremely positive and she is very determined to get well. We sincerely appreciate all of you. We have so many unforgettable and wonderful memories from our time as members of the FPCH (since 1976!). As we search for a new place of worship to join, we must bear in mind to not compare the congregation to our 'home' church - that wouldn't be fair to them!

Please know that we will always hold you in our hearts. If you are ever in the Indianapolis area, please feel free to contact us. We would love to see familiar faces.

*Sincerely, Sandy and Paul Nicholls*



Book Club will not be meeting in December.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 3rd at 2:00 PM at the home of Debbie Catania to discuss the book "The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell" by Robert Dugoni.



**The next meal will be on Saturday, December 29th from 12 to 1 PM**



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 5 Art Calvin
- 6 Evvy Kikkert
- Jamie Toren
- 8 Kristen Wilson
- 9 Ben Porter
- 10 Cindy Rosa
- 11 John Toren
- 12 Ron Shuck
- 18 Hilary Kikkert
- 27 Arletta Schaefer
- 28 Caroline Studer
- 29 Suzanne Gruoner
- 30 Rodney Fozkos



### Prayers of Christian Sympathy to:

Jeff Savage and his family on the death of his Aunt,  
Carol Johnson on November 7th.

Ede Corten and the Corten family on the death of Jim Corten  
on November 19th.

Jean Smith's daughter in law, Jhenn Sanchez and her family  
on the death of Jhenn's mother on November 25th.



Ongoing  
Prayers



The Prayer Circle prays for the people on this list, and for all other concerns named at that time. Please include the persons listed here in your daily devotional time. Thank you.

- Debbie Abernethy
- Anthony - Suzanne Gruoner's son
- Alaina (Callaway)
- Marge Ashton
- Bapst Family (Callaway)
- Sonny Buono
- Mary Ann (Perryman)
- Vicky Callaway
- Art Calvin
- Ina Chappell
- I Sun Chong (Oprea)
- Marian Clayton (Morton)
- Jim & Ede Corten
- Ruth Dekker
- Arlene Diekman
- Barb Dye
- Matt Hanft (Oprea)
- Daniel Litwicki (Debbie Catania)
- Murray Faris
- Marlys Furnas
- David Jones (Oprea)
- Rick Parker
- Calvin Scott
- Bonita Sutton (Nolen)
- Steve & Melinda
- Dennis VanKooten

In order to keep the prayer list current, we need your input. If there are people you would like to have added or if there is someone who can be taken off the list, please call the Church

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Due to federal regulations about privacy, ***we are no longer called by hospitals*** about patient admissions. Even if they ask you for your church affiliation when checking in, they do not call. If you or your loved one would like a visit while hospitalized, or would like a home visit, please call the church office at 219-838-6850.  
 Thank you!  
 \*\*\*\*\*

- We pray for those who are traveling.
  - We pray for those we hold silently in our hearts.
  - We pray for all children in the world.
  - We pray for the work of the Holy Spirit within the life of FPCH and within each of us, that we may indeed be and make disciples in each new day.
  - We pray for our home-bound.
- \*\*\*\*\*
- We pray for those undergoing treatment for cancer, the mentally ill and their families, those recuperating, those undergoing treatments and those waiting for transplants.
  - We pray for our country.
  - We pray for our firemen and police who help keep us safe at home.
  - We pray for our service men and women.
  - We pray for the unemployed, the under employed and the homeless.



**USHER SCHEDULE**

**DECEMBER 2**

Eason & Nancy Engle  
Nancy O'Donnell

**DECEMBER 9**

Rodney & Peggy Fozkos  
Lee Ann Cheesebrough

**DECEMBER 16**

Tracy Oprea  
Jan Oprea  
Cheryl Steen

**DECEMBER 23**

Norma Bauer  
Donna & Kelsey Helmer

**DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE**

Carolyn Ham  
Jamie & Savannah Ham

**DECEMBER 30**

Vince & Debbie Catania  
Bob Abernethy

**FLOWERS**

**DECEMBER 2 - In Lieu of Flowers**

Fred & Carol Callaway

**DECEMBER 9, & 16**

OPEN

**DECEMBER 23**

Poinsettias

**LITURGISTS**

**DECEMBER 2**

Bonnie Perryman

**DECEMBER 9**

CANTATA

**DECEMBER 16**

Lois Fozkos

**DECEMBER 23**

Vince Catania

**DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE**

Carol Callaway

**DECEMBER 30**

Peter Churitch

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

**DECEMBER 2**

Adult Bible Study

**DECEMBER 9**

Donna Helmer  
Norma Bauer

**DECEMBER 16**

Tom & Pam Porter

**DECEMBER 23**

OPEN

**DECEMBER 30**

Choir

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

12/2: P. Fozkos/L. Fozkos  
12/9: CANTATA  
12/16: J. Smith/N. Engle  
12/23: H. Kikkert/D. Catania  
12/30: T. Oprea/T. Severson

**HOSPITALITY HOSTS**

12/2: Nancy O'Donnell  
12/9: Shirley McKnight  
12/16: Jamie Ham  
12/23: Lexa Miller  
12/30: Gale Churitch

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS**

12/2: Tracy Oprea & Ella Severson  
12/9: Carolyn, Jamie & Savannah Ham  
12/16: The Kikkert Family  
12/23: The Casiano Family  
12/24: John & Judy Toren

**COMMUNION: December 2:**

Carolyn Ham  
Anettia Holmes  
Karen Lounsbury  
Shirley McKnight



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
HIGHLAND**

Worship  
Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

**RIDES TO HERITAGE**

**WORSHIP**

Call the Church Office  
(838-6850)

Mailing address: **8727 Delaware Street**  
Highland, Indiana 46322

Phone: (219) 838-6850

Fax: (219) 838-0827

E-mail: [fpch@fpchhighland.org](mailto:fpch@fpchhighland.org)

**We're on the Web!**

**[www.fpchhighland.org](http://www.fpchhighland.org)**

