

THE LOOK FORWARD...

Pastor's Corner

by Roger Schmidt

Good News

Happy New Year!

At the time I write this familiar greeting, it feels a bit premature (having yet to get to Christmas). But I know that at this time of year, time seems to fly by. It will be only a few short days until many of our friends and neighbors will be considering making some needed changes in their lives and begin talking about New Year's Resolutions. There's something about the end of one year and the beginning of a new, that makes all of us look forward with hopeful optimism. What a perfect time to invite a friend to church to hear some *Good News*.

Throughout the coming new year, the Highland Church has made a commitment to setting aside one Sabbath a month to present a special Bible-study series entitled, "A New Creation." In this series, our guests and members alike will have the opportunity to learn about God's great plan of salvation as revealed through Bible prophecy and about a new creation now available in Jesus. We will learn that this new creation is more than a hopeful vision of the future. It is a new, present reality that can be seen all around us if we allow God to transform our vision. Christ's new creation is a blessing for today as well as the hope for tomorrow.

A question that I have been asked by several members is, "Is this a traditional evangelistic series?" The answer to this question is both yes and no.

No. It is not like a traditional evangelist meeting in the sense of inviting the whole community to attend a month-long series of nightly meetings ending with an invitation to change church affiliation. Instead, we are personally inviting our friends to come to church with us several times throughout the year. We will not be calling these friends to change their church affiliation but inviting *everyone*, member and friend alike, to consider Christ and the Gospel anew; to make a new commitment to follow Jesus wherever *He* leads.

Yes. It is like a traditional evangelist series in two very important ways. First, guests will learn about God's message of hope for humanity in these last days of Earth's history. They will learn that Jesus is soon to come and that we may indeed be eyewitnesses to the greatest event this world has ever seen. Second, we will be presenting *Good News*. The word "evangelism" comes from the Greek word *euangelion* (εὐαγγέλιον) which, stated simply, means "messenger of good news."

This helps answer another question I've been asked by church members, "How should I invite my friend?"

Invite your friend to join you in for a special Bible study series that will be revealing *Good News* about Jesus, *Good News* about life today, and *Good News* about the future.

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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		1	2	3	4	5 Worship: Roger Schmidt \$ Church Budget Fellowship Dinner-LPFLC
			Prayer & Praise 6:00 p.m.		Forty Day of Prayer 6:00 p.m. Sunset: 4:43	
6 CS Thrift Store 1:00-4:00 p.m. Celebration for Pastor John & Anita – 5:00 p.m.	7	8 CS Thrift Store 9:30-12:00 Moms in Progress 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee 6:00 p.m. Church Board 7:00 p.m.	9 Prayer & Praise 6:00 p.m.	10	11 40 Days of Prayer 6:00 p.m. Sunset 4:49 p.m.	12 Worship: Roger Schmidt \$ KY-TN Advance PBE Adventurers – 4:00 p.m. Pizza Party Fundraiser
13 CS Thrift Store 1:00-4:00 p.m.	14	15 CS Thrift Store 9:30-12:00 noon	16 Prayer & Praise 6:00 p.m.	17	18 40 Days of Prayer 6:00 p.m. Sunset 4:56 p.m.	19 Worship: Roger Schmidt \$ Church Budget Albert Dittes Piano Vespers – 4:30 p.m.
20 CS Thrift Store 1:00-4:00 p.m. Pathfinders 5:00 p.m.	21 HES Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.	22 CS Thrift Store 9:30-12:00 noon	23 Prayer & Praise 6:00 p.m.	24 ACROFEST	25 40 Days of Prayer 6:00 p.m. Sunset 5:03 p.m.	26 Worship: Roger Schmidt \$ Religious Liberty Acrofest – 7:00
27 CS Thrift Store 1:00-4:00 p.m.	28	29 CS Thrift Store 9:30-12:00 noon	30 Prayer & Praise 6:00 p.m.	31		



Highland Elementary is Awarded a Grant

Highland Elementary School was awarded a \$500 grant from the Portland Community and Education Foundation. The grant will be used in conjunction with the \$200 mini-grant the school received from Tractor Supply Store to create a school garden.

Highland Elementary plans to construct 5 raised garden beds, one for each classroom. The Portland Community and Education Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing scholarships for Portland area residents as well as grants for teachers in the Portland area.

This is the first time that we are aware of that Highland Elementary has received one of the grants. This year nine grants were awarded to classroom teachers. Since 2006 almost \$40,000 has been awarded to area teachers and \$175,000 awarded to Portland area residents in scholarships.

One of the goals of PCEF is to provide independent funding for teachers that would not typically be covered by the school budget for worthy educational projects.

Thank you to those that contribute to the Portland Community Education Foundation.

Security Cameras Installed

If you have recently visited Highland Elementary you may have noticed security cameras. The school has installed 16 security cameras with the majority of them outside the buildings. In an effort to provide a safer campus, the security cameras help us to monitor who is walking or driving onto campus. A huge thank you to Mr. Larry Ashcraft for spearheading this project and volunteering his limited free time.

What's Happening at Highland...



Psalm 94:19

*"When anxiety was
great within me, Your
consolation brought
me joy."*

Info on the Church web site

Be sure to check out the church website for updated calendar information. Sermons are there for you to view by clicking on **Livestream** on the home page.

Piano Vespers

You are invited to a special, piano vespers performed by Albert Dittes on Sabbath evening, January 19 at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Featured will be the life and music of composer Frank Belden.

You Are Invited!

We will be honoring Pastor John and Anita for all they have given this church community and celebrating with them as they transition into new phases of ministry on Sunday, January 6 at 5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Plan now to attend!

Acrofest 2019

Enjoy watching the HES Tumble Crew and Highland Academy Gymnix along with the Southern Adventist University Gym Masters and gymnastics teams from other KY-TN schools as they perform Saturday night, January 26, in the Raphan Ley Auditorium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 7:00 p.m.



Happy Birthday

1. Nyakor Chamjock, Virginia Huff
2. Monty Kirkwood
3. Patricia Overstreet
4. Lori Simmons, Dhial Tuor
5. Richard Brock, Barrett Chamberlain, Stephen McPherson
6. Angela Aiken, Lillian Lopez
- 7.
8. Timothy Lee, Carol Munroe
- 9.
10. Gloria Talley, Alice Williams
- 11.
12. Connie Bradshaw, Cody Brown, Jennifer Young
- 13.
14. Emily Breece, Nicholas DeLeon, Joe Irwin, Jack McNeilus
15. Heidi Morris
16. Jane Pletcher
17. Jim Litchfield
18. Matt Stewart
- 19.
20. Violet Christiensen, Corinna Thompson
21. Austin Covrig, Suzanne Hallam, Alice Ann Litchfield, BJ Shelton
- 22.
- 23.
24. Carolyn Allen
25. Emerson Harris
26. Roy Drusky IV
- 27.
- 28.
29. Nicole Crite
30. Samuel Keener, Gabriel Ryder, Tom Sherman
31. Kristina Day, Ken Hallam

*Blessings on your
Birthday and the new
year to come!*