

- **Holiday Events**
- **Session Highlights**
- **Heifer International**

INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:

<a href="#">Holiday Events</a>	2
<a href="#">Nov. Calendar</a>	3
<a href="#">Poinsettias, Advent, Hanging of the Greens</a>	4
<a href="#">Dec. Calendar</a>	5
<a href="#">Session Highlights &amp; Christmas Joy Offering</a>	6
<a href="#">Third Sunday Luncheon</a>	7
<a href="#">Gift of Literacy</a>	8
<a href="#">Lagniappe Ladies</a>	9

# Lifelines

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 7

NOV/DEC 2011

## Now Thank We All Our God

*With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom this world rejoices,  
Who, from our mothers' arms,  
Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.*

We do have much to be thankful for. In this season of Thanksgiving and preparation to celebrate the coming of God to us in Christ, let us pause to remember who we are and whose we are – and give thanks to God.

Thank you to everyone, from all of us, the whole Highland community, for your commitment to investing your time, talents and treasure in carrying out our mission!! God has given this Mission -- “Connecting Our Community with Christ” -- to all the saints who gather at Highland Presbyterian Church. We need all of you to accomplish our Mission!!

“We are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.” If you have not returned your Commitment Card to invest in the Mission and to grow deeper in faith, hope and love, we ask that you do so as soon as possible. Remember God’s promise:

*Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.*

– Malachi 3:10

## An Advent Series – “Of Prophets and Psalms”

The psalms for Advent all contain the verb “to restore.” This speaks to the spiritual hunger within all of us — that of having once known a very precious truth that has somehow slipped from our grasp. The human dilemma is that we spend a lot of time groping on our hands and knees in the dark, hoping to find a light that will reveal the meaning of life, or a lantern that will light our path. What we need is a Savior, the Light of the World, to come to us and reveal the truth, and perhaps to remind us that the treasure we’ve been seeking isn’t the true treasure after all. The readings from the prophets echo this cry to God, but they give us a message of hope that God’s love for the people of God is evidenced through God’s faithfulness, that God has not abandoned us, but rather loves us, is committed to us and indeed is among us.

# Advent – Christmas 2011

## Sunday, November 26 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. – Worship with Communion  
“Of Prophets and Psalms”  
*Isaiah 64 & Psalm 80*

## Saturday, December 3 – “Greening of the Church”

8:00 a.m. – Breakfast  
9:00 a.m. – Decorating the Sanctuary

## Sunday, December 4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:15 am – *Brass Ensemble* begins playing prior to the service  
9:30 a.m. – Worship with Communion and Brass  
“Of Prophets and Psalms”  
*Isaiah 40 & Psalm 85*

## Sunday, December 11 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. – Worship with Communion  
“Of Prophets and Psalms”  
*Isaiah 61 & Psalm 126*  
11:00 a.m. – Christmas Party

## Sunday, December 18 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. – Worship with Communion  
“Of Prophets and Psalms”  
*2 Samuel 7 & Psalm 89*

## Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

5:30 p.m. – Carols, Candlelight & Communion Worship Service  
“From Darkness to Light”

## Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. – Worship with Communion  
“What Did You Get For Christmas?”

## Sunday, January 1, 2012 – Epiphany Sunday

9:30 a.m. – Worship with Communion

# NOVEMBER 2011

## Schedule of Events

11/01 - Lagniappe Ladies

11/06 - Food Bank Collections

11/15 - Session Mtg

11/20 - Third Sunday Luncheon

## Birthdays

- 11/04 Dudley Payton
- 11/11 Mary Perry
- 11/13 Woody Paul
- 11/14 Gordon Barney
- 11/15 Doug Moreman
- 11/24 Billie Dean
- 11/24 Julie Orr
- 11/24 Bonner Stewart



## Wedding Anniversaries

11/21 Jack & Betty Bagent



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> AA Meeting Noon  <b>Lagniappe Ladies Mtg</b> 6:00 pm  AA Meeting 7:30 pm	<b>2</b> <b>Prayer Group</b> 8:00 am  AA Meeting Noon <b>Bell Choir</b> 6:00 pm  <b>Vocal Choir</b> 7:00 pm  Ladies' AA Mtg 7:00 pm	<b>3</b> AA Meeting Noon  Men's AA Meeting 8:00 pm	<b>4</b> Office Closed  AA Meeting Noon	<b>5</b> Bill & Mary Lambert Yard Crew
<b>6</b> <b>Commitment Sunday</b>  <b>Worship / Communion</b> 9:30 am  <b>Church School</b> 11:00 am  <b>1st Sunday Food Bank Collections</b>	<b>7</b> AA Meeting Noon	<b>8</b> AA Meeting Noon  AA Meeting 7:30 pm	<b>9</b> <b>Prayer Group</b> 8:00 am  AA Meeting Noon <b>Bell Choir</b> 6:00 pm  <b>Vocal Choir</b> 7:00 pm  Ladies' AA Mtg 7:00 pm	<b>10</b> AA Meeting Noon  Men's AA Meeting 8:00 pm	<b>11</b> Office Closed  AA Meeting Noon	<b>12</b> Mike Leonard Yard Crew
<b>13</b> <b>Worship</b> 9:30 am  <b>Church School</b> 11:00 am	<b>14</b> AA Meeting Noon  Girl Scout Unit Service Mtg. 6:30 pm	<b>15</b> AA Meeting Noon  <b>Session Mtg</b> 7:00pm  AA Meeting 7:30 pm	<b>16</b> <b>Prayer Group</b> 8:00 am  AA Meeting Noon <b>No Bell Choir</b>  <b>No Vocal Choir</b>  Ladies' AA Mtg 7:00 pm	<b>17</b> AA Meeting Noon  Men's AA Meeting 8:00 pm	<b>18</b> Office Closed  AA Meeting Noon	<b>19</b> Jack Bagent Yard Crew
<b>20</b> <b>Christ the King</b>  <b>Worship</b> 9:30 am  <b>Third Sunday Luncheon</b> 11:00 am  <b>Outreach Team Mtg</b> 12:00 pm	<b>21</b> Office Closed  AA Meeting Noon	<b>22</b> Office Closed  AA Meeting Noon  AA Meeting 7:30 pm	<b>23</b> Office Closed  <b>Prayer Group</b> 8:00 am  AA Meeting Noon <b>No Bell Choir</b>  <b>No Vocal Choir</b>  Ladies' AA Mtg 7:00 pm	<b>24</b> <b>Thanks-giving Day</b>  Office Closed  AA Meeting Noon  Men's AA Meeting 8:00 pm	<b>25</b> Office Closed  AA Meeting Noon	<b>26</b> John Kleinpeter Yard Crew
<b>27</b> <b>1st Sunday of Advent</b>  <b>Worship/ Communion</b> 9:30 am  <b>Church School</b> 11:00 am	<b>28</b> AA Meeting Noon	<b>29</b> AA Meeting Noon  AA Meeting 7:30 pm	<b>30</b> <b>Prayer Group</b> 8:00 am  AA Meeting Noon <b>Bell Choir</b> 6:00 pm  <b>Vocal Choir</b> 7:00 pm  Ladies' AA Mtg 7:00 pm			



# Christmas Poinsettias



will be available to decorate the sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas season. If you would like to purchase one or more poinsettias, please return the completed form below along with your check **(\$10 for each poinsettia)** made payable to "Highland Presbyterian Church" (with "poinsettias" written on the Memo line). You may either place the form & check in **the offering plate by Sunday, November 27, or send them to the Church Office by Wednesday, November 30.** Poinsettias may be taken home following the Christmas Eve Worship Service.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_

IN GRATITUDE FOR \_\_\_\_\_

\* Additional forms are located on the back table in the sanctuary.



## Advent Breakfast

Let's have **Advent Breakfast** together at 8:00 a.m. on **Saturday, December 3.** We will see a short video travelogue, and through it we can journey to Nazareth in the Holy Land and see some of the sites of the Christmas story. Come enjoy a hot breakfast and good fellowship.

## "Hanging of the Greens" ... Immediately Following Breakfast!

Come and take part in decorating the church for Christmas! We will be placing:

- ⇒ Greenery at the windows!
- ⇒ Wreaths on the doors!
- ⇒ Advent wreath with candles!
- ⇒ Christmas tree with lights -- ready for the Chrismons!!!
- ⇒ And yes! also poinsettias!!

How does it all happen? Because of YOU!  
Come and take part in decorating the church for Christmas!

(And what are Chrismons? They are symbols of Christ! The word is a combination of "Christ" and "monogram.")



# DECEMBER 2011

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 7

## Schedule of Events

- 12/03 - Advent Breakfast & Hanging of the Greens
- 12/04 - Brass Ensemble Food Bank Collections
- 12/06 - Lagniappe Ladies
- 12/11 - Christmas Party
- 12/13 - Session Meeting
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve Worship

## Birthdays

- 12/01 Young Kim
- 12/05 Matthew Lemken
- 12/06 Beverly Tipton
- 12/10/03 Mei Mei Stewart
- 12/11 Jack Bagent
- 12/11/03 James Dolan
- 12/27 Jim Martin



## Wedding Anniversaries

- 12/28 Woody & Lisa Paul



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 AA Meeting Noon Men's AA Meeting 8:00 pm	2 Office Closed AA Meeting Noon	3 <b>Advent Breakfast</b> 8:00 am <b>Hanging of the Greens</b> 9:00 am Bill & Mary Lambert Yard
4 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> Brass Ensemble 9:15 am Worship / Communion 9:30 am Church School 11:00 am 1st Sunday Food Bank Collection	5 AA Meeting Noon	6 AA Meeting Noon <b>Lagniappe Ladies</b> 6:00 pm AA Meeting 7:30 pm	7 <b>Prayer Group</b> 8:00 am AA Meeting Noon <b>Bell Choir</b> 6:00 pm <b>Vocal Choir</b> 7:00 pm Ladies' AA Mtg 7:00 pm	8 AA Meeting Noon Men's AA Meeting 8:00 pm	9 Office Closed AA Meeting Noon	10 Mike Leonard Yard Crew
11 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> Worship/ Communion 9:30 am <b>Christmas Party/ Reception</b> 11:00 am	12 AA Meeting Noon Girl Scout Unit Service Mtg. 6:30 pm	13 AA Meeting Noon <b>Session Mtg</b> 7:00pm AA Meeting 7:30 pm	14 <b>Prayer Group</b> 8:00 am AA Meeting Noon <b>Bell Choir</b> 6:00 pm <b>Vocal Choir</b> 7:00 pm Ladies' AA Mtg 7:00 pm	15 AA Meeting Noon Men's AA Meeting 8:00 pm	16 Office Closed AA Meeting Noon	17 Jack Bagent Yard Crew
18 <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> Worship/ Communion 9:30 am Church School 11:00 am	19 AA Meeting Noon	20 AA Meeting Noon AA Meeting 7:30 pm	21 <b>Prayer Group</b> 8:00 am AA Meeting Noon <b>No Bell Choir</b> <b>No Vocal Choir</b> Ladies' AA Mtg 7:00 pm	22 AA Meeting Noon Men's AA Meeting 8:00 pm	23 Office Closed AA Meeting Noon	24 <b>Christmas Eve Worship, Carols, &amp; Candles</b> 5:30 pm  John Kleinpeter Yard Crew
25 Christmas Morning Worship Service/ Communion 10:00 am 	26 AA Meeting Noon	27 AA Meeting Noon AA Meeting 7:30 pm	28 <b>Prayer Group</b> 8:00 am AA Meeting Noon <b>No Bell Choir</b> <b>No Vocal Choir</b> Ladies' AA Mtg 7:00 pm	29 AA Meeting Noon Men's AA Meeting 8:00 pm	30 Office Closed AA Meeting Noon	31 <b>New Year's Eve</b> Bill & Mary Lambert Yard Crew

## Session Highlights

Session held its monthly stated meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2011.

At the meeting, Session:

- Received a thank you letter from the Greater Baton Rouge Interfaith Federation for HPC's 25 years of participation as a member.
- Received a thank you letter from the General Assembly Mission Council for Highland's recent contributions of \$1,943 to One Great Hour of Sharing and \$2,015 to the Christmas Joy Gift.
- Heard reports from Jack Bagent, Highland's Elder Commissioner, and Jim Rollins on the October 15, 2011, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of South Louisiana, held at HPC. Jim reported receiving many compliments on how well Highland had hosted the meeting. He thanked Session and the Congregation for their efforts in making the day such a success.
- Approved seeking professional assistance to determine the problems that exist with the sound system in the sanctuary.
- Heard the plans for the annual stewardship program that will begin with a Dinner for Mission Investors on Monday, October 24, 2011.



## Christmas Joy Offering

We will receive the Christmas Joy Offering on Sunday, December 18. Half of the offering goes to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs for retired and active church workers and their families. The other half goes to support Presbyterian related racial-ethnic education.

For more information about the offering, visit

[www.pcusa.org/specialofferings](http://www.pcusa.org/specialofferings)

click on "Christmas Joy Offering"

## HPC Mission Lunch -- Third Sunday of November

For 12 years or more Highland Presbyterian Church has been highlighting Worldwide Mission efforts and Mission Giving at an annual dinner. This year, we will be helping Heifer International to “Fill the Ark.”

Since 1944, Heifer International, a community development organization, has worked with people of all faiths to provide farm animals that help families around the world become self-reliant for obtaining food, income and to pass on animals and training to others in their community.

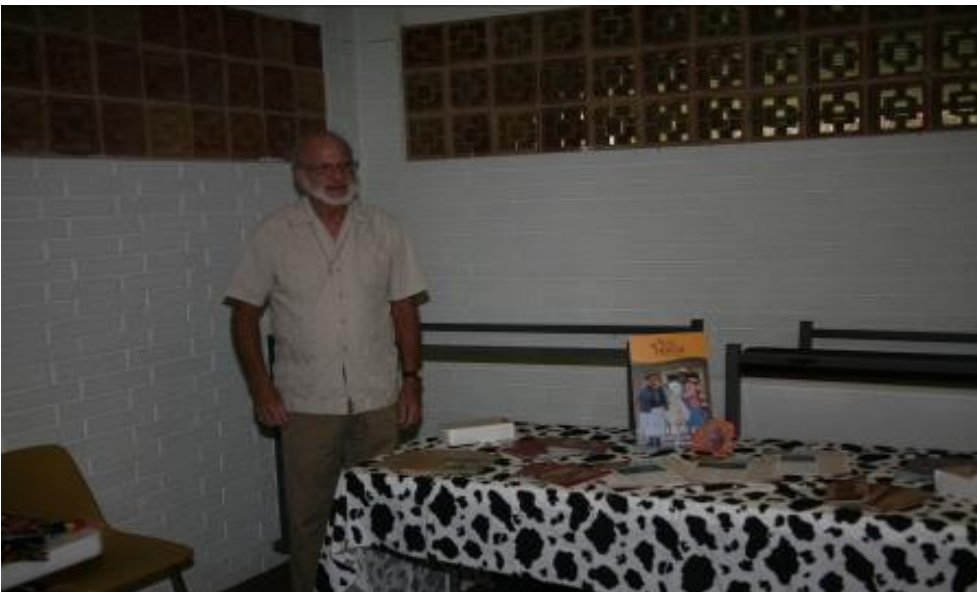
Heifer’s “Fill the Ark” program helps families to learn about how the way we live affects other people and about how to help. The biblical concept of the ark offers rich imagery as a place of refuge against disaster, and today, the concept of refuge against storms of hunger and poverty is also meaningful. The prospect of a deteriorating environment and disappearing species is as real today as in the time of Noah. See [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) for additional information.

You can help by sharing a four-week “Fill the Ark” Calendar with your family to learn about the projects of Heifer International. We can provide actual help by saving money to donate to such programs. (The Calendar program can be done at any time.)

Spearheading the effort this year are Louise Dye [louisedla@aol.com](mailto:louisedla@aol.com) and Dave Adams [davidfadams@yahoo.com](mailto:davidfadams@yahoo.com).



*Heifer’s “Fill the Ark” program helps families to learn about how the way we live affects other people and about how to help.*



# Give the Gift of Literacy

On Sunday when I picked up donations for the Magnolia Woods “Bear Paw Store,” I was delighted to see many books. (*Note: The “Bear Paw Store” is the reward system for students who do well at Magnolia Woods Elementary School. Our donations help to restock the reward closet!!*) Books are the **number one item** purchased by the children with their good behavior/good grades coupons. Now consider Highland’s annual Christmastime “Gift of Literacy” program -- what a wonderful opportunity!!!

Small trees with names of all the Magnolia Woods first grade students will soon appear on the table at the back of our sanctuary. Please take a name tag (or 2 or 3 or more!!) and purchase three books for each name you choose -- books appropriate for a first grade reader. Wrap the books, attach the name tag to each gift of 3 books, and place the gifts under the small trees at the back of the sanctuary.

The date for delivery to the Magnolia Woods first grade classes will be announced later. If you would like to go along and see the smiles when the students receive their books, let me know.

Here is an added bonus: Volunteers in Public Schools is hosting a book fair at the **Perkins Rowe Barnes and Noble on Dec. 2-4, Fri-Sun.** If you purchase your gift books there at that time and mention VIPS, a percentage of the sales will benefit VIPS.

**Give the gift of literacy** -- the children will receive their own books and you will receive the gift of helping a child to read!!

by Beverly Tipton

*Beverly Tipton is among the Highland people who are part of Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS), helping elementary school students with reading and math at Magnolia Woodsl.*



*Volunteers in  
Public Schools is  
hosting a book  
fair at the Perkins  
Rowe Barnes and  
Noble on  
Dec. 2-4, Fri-Sun.*

## Lagniappe Ladies

Lagniappe Ladies will meet at the church on **Tuesday, December 6 at 6:00 p.m.** -- a Piccadilly Holiday Meal is planned. We will also have our Christmas cookie exchange, so please bring exchangeable cookies or other treats -- either homemade or store-bought.

We will hear a reading of the Christmas Story -- and maybe venture into singing Christmas carols!! All women are invited, but don't come alone, bring a guest with you!

For the Women's Shelter,  
we are suggesting a donation of cash or gift cards.



Evie (Adams) Dicasali

## Holiday visits from the "little ones"

Most of our Highland children are old enough for Children's Bible Study, which occurs during the latter part of our Worship hour, so we currently do not have paid nursery staff. We depend on volunteers to "man the post" for children under 4 years if the need arises.

If you are interested in being on the list to help out, please get in touch with Louise Dye ([louisedla@aol.com](mailto:louisedla@aol.com) / 767-3091) or Amy Stewart ([amystewart@cox.net](mailto:amystewart@cox.net)).

When your family comes to celebrate with you -- and brings children who need nursery care during Worship -- please let us know ahead of time (if you can) so we can make sure they'll be well cared for.

**Highland Presbyterian church**  
10024 Highland Rd. Baton Rouge, LA  
Phone: 225-766-5775  
Fax: 225-766-5770  
E-mail: [hpchurch@bellsouth.net](mailto:hpchurch@bellsouth.net)