

Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
1101 Cherokee Road
Louisville, KY 40204



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

A thinking, feeling, healing community of faith

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1101 Cherokee Road
Louisville, KY 40204
Phone: (502) 451-3735
Fax: (502) 451-3760
Website: www.hbclouisville.org

Nina Maples
nina@hbclouisville.org
SENIOR PASTOR
Jim England
INTERIM PASTOR
Carol Harston
carol@hbclouisville.org
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR FAITH FORMATION AND CONGREGATIONAL ENGAGEMENT
Renee Purtlebaugh
renee@hbclouisville.org
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES
Lauren Jones Mayfield
laurenjm@hbclouisville.org
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUNG ADULTS AND MISSIONS
Perry Dixon
perry@hbclouisville.org
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES
Kathy Collier
kathy@hbclouisville.org
MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP
Austin Echols
austin@hbclouisville.org
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE
Fred Bogert
MUSIC DIRECTOR TO FRIDAY CHURCH
Don Burke
PASTOR EMERITUS
Vicki Runnion
vicrun55@gmail.com
DEACON CHAIR
Ryan Davis
rdavis41@gmail.com
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR
Deb Ackerson
deb@hbclouisville.org
INTERIM FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Andria Badens
andria@hbclouisville.org
PUBLICATIONS/MEMBERSHIP/OFFICE MANAGER
Linda Campbell
linda@hbclouisville.org
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ASSISTANT
Walter McWhorter
walter@hbclouisville.org
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
Jerre Bassett
FULL-TIME CUSTODIAN
Rob Yates
PART-TIME CUSTODIAN

Congregation Approves Recommendation from Pastoral Interim Committee

With an approval rate of 98.6%, the congregation voted on Sunday, January 21, to accept the recommendations of the Pastoral Interim Committee which included employing Rev. Jim England to serve as our Interim Preacher and to recognize Rev. Nina Maples as Senior Pastor. We believe this structure will serve the church well as we begin a season of change. At Sunday's services, Joe exhorted us to "look forward" and as we do that, please know that while we don't know yet what our future holds (do we ever?) we know that we continue our journey together.

Some at Highland have known Rev. Jim England for many years, others have never met him. So, let me share a bit about Jim for those who don't yet know him. Jim currently serves as a pediatric chaplain with Hosparus where he specializes in offering care to children and their families. He has served three churches as pastor, including Deer Park Baptist Church. Over the years, Jim has also served as Interim Pastor for a number of congregations, including Highland where he was the Interim Pastor at the time we called a guy named Joe Phelps. Jim is looking forward to serving Highland again in his new capacity as Interim Preacher/Pastor. I refer to Jim's new position with us as Interim Preacher/Pastor for two reasons: 1) Jim's primary responsibilities will involve preaching and participating in worship planning, and he will do this in a part-time capacity; and 2) In whatever role he is in, Jim is a pastor and his manner can best be described as pastoral. So, while Jim's most visible role will be as "preacher" in our weekly worship services, he will be another of our pastors. I know you will enjoy getting to know Jim.

Please watch for opportunities in the near future where we will begin as a community of faith to gather together to talk about this time in the life of our church, our dreams, hopes, and challenges. In anticipation of those gatherings, I would ask you to continue to discern how we can all be supportive of our ministers and lay leadership during this time of transition. ~ Roy Fuller, Chair, Pastoral Interim Committee

Weekend Services

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Exodus
Moses, I Cannot Swim!
Jim England, Proclaimer

Ken Medema, Guest Musician

Vote for Congregational Representatives This Sunday

The Ministry Council would like to thank the church for the nominations received on Sunday, January 14. The names of those who have been asked and agreed to serve on the Ministry Council beginning in February are listed below. The church will vote by ballot in all services this weekend.

Lauren Blackwell (Co Chair), Steve Brown, Lee Cave (filling an unexpired term), Hollan Holm, Robert Kahne, and Anita Roper.

Highlights Class Offered February 4

If you are a new or prospective member, you will want to attend the upcoming Highlights class on Sunday, February 4, 3:00-6:00 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. This class is part of the process for becoming a member of Highland, and is offered several times a year. Nina Maples will lead this class which offers an in-depth look at topics such as how our church is structured, how to join, and how to be involved in ministry at Highland.

There will be a light dinner served, and childcare is provided with a reservation. For more information or to make a childcare reservation, contact Nina at nina@hbclouisville.org.

Highland Welcomes...



Griffen



Bonnie Hendrix



Ken Medema at Highland This Sunday

Please invite family and friends to worship this Sunday, January 28, as we welcome Ken Medema to Highland in our 9:30 and 11:00 worship services! Across the years, Ken has shared his passion for learning and discovery through storytelling and music with an ever-growing circle of followers around the world. Ken has been performing for over 40 years in many different venues and for groups ranging from 50 to 50,000 people. Though blind from birth, Ken sees and hears with heart and mind, singing stories from his audience and accenting themes and perspectives from speakers and workshop leaders. Ken custom designs every musical moment through improvisation and new composition to bring each event to life.

Ken and his wife, Jane, make their home in Alameda, California. Together, they work on program designs and song lyrics, making time to explore new developments in religion, psychology and culture. They share a passion for movies (yes, Ken is an avid movie consumer), books, new music and politics, and love keeping up with four feisty grandchildren.

We will also welcome Beverly Vander Molen. Beverly is the traveling companion, sound person and visual navigator with Ken almost 175 days a year. Her background as a producer, music director and event planner comes in handy for the various types of venues in which she finds herself now. Although she is a trained organist, the sound board has become her instrument of choice. When home with her husband, Dave, they enjoy quiet evenings catching up and enjoying their home in Grandville, Michigan.

Don't miss this rare opportunity—hope to see you on Sunday!



Highland Highlights from Sunday's Services



Children's Worship Returns January 28

After a pause for Advent, Christmas, Epiphany and Joe's Retirement Weekend, Children's Worship returns on Sunday, January 28!

Children's Corner

Virtual Book Study for Parents

This spring, we hope to explore the possibility of hosting a virtual book study beginning in February for an hour or so during your lunch hour at work, once every two weeks! If you would be interested in participating, please contact Renee Purtlebaugh by January 23.

Important Dates to Remember

February	Teacher Appreciation Month
March 25	Easter Festival
June 26-29	PASSPORT <i>kids!</i>
July 20-22	Vacation Bible School Camp

Youth and Youth families,

Last Sunday, which was a full day of celebration for Joe, you will remember that amidst it all, we gathered together around the waters for the baptism of Rachel. After we participated in that sacred marker of Rachel's faith journey, we also watched Griffen come forward to join our congregation as well. On the one hand, though unique for Rachel and Griffen, these are familiar rituals in our life together. You may be wondering, though, what exactly they mean. What does it mean to be baptized? What does it mean to join the church, really? *What does it mean to believe?* I have not forgotten a brief, important conversation with a parent at the beginning of the year naming the need for us to talk about these things and sort out what these things mean *at Highland*. For while they may not mean the same thing for us as to our fundamentalist brethren down the road, they do mean something within the context of *our* faith, *our* experience, and *our* traditions. Of course, we are also firmly rooted in the broad stream of Baptist history and Christian theology. A lifelong project to fully sort out, but we are making some attempts at understanding, together, on Sunday mornings this spring. Come join us as we work through what it means to believe at 9:30 a.m. in the youth suite each Sunday!

Youth Corner

This Wednesday

6:00-7:15 p.m. in the Youth Suite

This Sunday

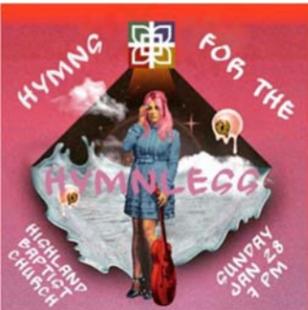
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
12:30-2:00 p.m. Guys Group
4:00-5:30 p.m. MS Girls Group
7:00-8:30 p.m. HS Girls Group

February 4—Summer Trip Meeting: Youth and Youth Families, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

February 25—HBC Got Skillz!

Hymns for the Hymless [explicit], January 28

This unique and new worship opportunity will take place in the church fellowship hall on Sunday, January 28, at 7:00 p.m. A merger of culture, story-telling, sacred text, sacrament, and creative liturgy will bind us in the creative energy of God among the people. Let Lauren know if you have skills, interests, or talents to share. Please attend, it's going to expand and give shape to who we are as young people in this world today. Here is the facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/158346744949798/>



Young Adult Corner

Theology on Tap, February 1

We will begin a three-part series on the Trinity. Lauren will lead the discussion about the Creator. Carol will guide us through discussion about the Redeemer in March, and Nina will point the way to the Sustainer in April. Join us next Thursday, February 1, 6:00 p.m., at Baxter 423.

Super Bowl LII 2018

Our annual throw-down par-tay will be February 4. More detes coming soon. Whether you like the game, the commercials, the half-time show, or the party snacks, plan to join us! <https://www.facebook.com/events/146362159346569/>

Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Justice, Press Conference Thursday

On January 25, 10:00 a.m., at Crescent Hill Baptist Church, the Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Justice (ICIJ) will observe the one-year anniversary of President Trump issuing the first of several executive orders that set in motion dramatic changes in immigration policy. Our church is a member of the ICIJ and is invited to this opportunity to hear from immigrant communities in our city and region. For more information, contact Carolyn King (callaby@aol.com), check out the facebook link at <https://www.facebook.com/events/418021991958811/>, or simply show up.

See a very readable policy brief from the Migration Policy Institute that summarizes the changes implemented and resisted during the past year at <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/immigration-under-trump-review-policy-shifts>.

Missions Corner



Tuesday, January 23

Hope for a Brighter Day (FH) 5:30 p.m.
 Richard Rohr Book Study for Men (FS) 7-9 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 10 p.m.

Wednesday, January 24

Fellowship Supper (FH) 5:20-6 p.m.
 Children's Activities 6-7:15 p.m.
 Youth Group (Youth Suite) 6-7:15 p.m.
 Adult Class—No Innocent Bystanders: Becoming an Ally in the Struggle for Justice (FH) ... 6:10-7:10 p.m.
 Adult Class—The Worship That Is Our Very Lives (Commons) 6:10-7:10 p.m.
 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal (Choir Room) 7:15-8:15 p.m.

Thursday, January 25

HBC Bookends (103) 2 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 7 p.m.

Friday, January 26

Friday Church (Sanctuary) 7-7:45 p.m.
 Narcotics Anonymous (FH) 8 p.m.

Saturday, January 27

Leadership Summit (Commons/Sanctuary) .. 7 a.m.-4 p.m.
 CBFKY (FH) 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sunday, January 28

Worship 8:30 a.m.
 Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 11 a.m.
 Bible Study 11 a.m.
 Personnel MG (Youth Suite) 12:15 p.m.
 Highland Book Club (Off-site) 6 p.m.
 Hymns for the Hymnless (FH) 7 p.m.

Tuesday, January 30

Hope for a Brighter Day (FH) 5:30 p.m.
 Richard Rohr Book Study for Men (FS) 7-9 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 10 p.m.

Upcoming Events at Highland

January 27	Leadership Summit
January 28	Highland Book Club Hymns for the Hymnless
February	Teacher Appreciation Month
February 1	Theology on Tap
February 4	Highlights Class
February 6	Cream of the Crop Trip
February 10	MensWork Breakfast
February 14	Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday Night Menus

January 24

- Chicken Piccata
- Wild Rice
- Grilled Vegetable Platter
- Caesar Salad
- French Bread
- Dessert



Adults: \$7; Children ages 4-12: \$3.50; Max per family: \$21

Reminder: If you have a reservation you are responsible to pay for it. Cancellations must be made *no later than 11:00 a.m. the Tuesday before your reservation.* You may also contact the church office to make your reservations/cancellations.

Highland's Word To Our Community



This Week's Deacons

Friday, 7:00 p.m.

Kathy Belcher, Jim McBee (C)

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Kristie Abney (C), Tony Dougherty (G), Gene Streible, Tyler Swim

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

David Bannister (C), Bruce Carroll (G), Becky Holloman, Jim McBee

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Kathy Belcher (C), Bill Martin (G), Kim Shippey, Ginny Sims

Cream of the Crop Trip, February 6

Cream of the Crop is a group, retirement age and above, that gathers monthly. Our activities range from pot-lucks to trips to local places of interest.

We hope you will join us on Tuesday, February 6, as we gather at Derby City Antique Mall and have lunch at the Café at noon. RSVP to Joanne Taheri by Friday, February 2, if you plan to attend. Please be sure to indicate whether you plan to meet us there or if you would like to carpool when you make your reservation.

Do You Know Podcasts? Highland Needs You!

Building upon *The Cloud of Witness* series on Wednesday night, Highland is looking for members of our community with experience recording and publishing podcasts! We have many saints on the move among our cloud of witnesses here at Highland and each has a story to tell. Through storytelling and interviews, we hope to celebrate the life stories of a wide, diverse range of members. Some will be brief, others more in depth. Some will come from lifelong members and span decades of experience, others will come from those who have found new life with us more recently. Think Highland's own unique blend of *On Being* and *This American Life*. If you have knowledge you can share to get us pointed in the right direction, contact Perry at perry@hbclouisville.org!

Office Support Volunteers Needed

HBC Office Volunteers needed one half-day weekly to answer phones and greet visitors in the mornings 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., or afternoons 1:00-5:00 p.m. Please contact Joey Eubank if interested.

Wednesday Night Adult Programming

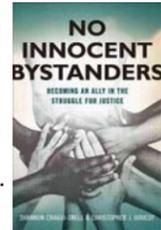
Winter Term: January 24, January 31, February 7

No Innocent Bystanders: Becoming an Ally in the Struggle for Justice

(*Dr. Shannon Craigo-Snell*): LPTS Professor of Theology Dr. Shannon Craigo-Snell released *No Innocent Bystanders* this past fall as an invitation to help ally groups to understand what they can accomplish, what they can't, and what kind of humility and clarity is required to tell the difference. In partnership with Highland's Anti-Racism Team, Dr. Craigo-Snell will teach this 3-week course to help us explore how we work for justice not only with God but with our marginalized neighbors as well.

The Worship that Is Our Very Lives (*Carol Harston*): In *Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation*, James K. A. Smith writes, "We are what we love, and our loves is shaped, primed, and aimed by liturgical practices that take hold of our gut and aim our heart to certain ends." Every Sunday, Joe has sent us forth from worship with the same benediction: "We end this form of worship to begin the worship that is our very lives." Highland's mission as articulated in Vision 20/20 is to "boldly live out" this worship. What might that mean in our individual lives, our communal life, and our witness? Inspired by *Desiring the Kingdom*, Carol Harston will teach this 3-week course that explores how we might better understand our communal weekly worship *and* our daily worship as a training of our hearts to love God.

For a full Wednesday night schedule of classes for the Winter, Lenten, and Spring terms, please visit <https://hbclouisville.org/2017/08/15/8260/>.



Cloud Of Witnesses: Still in Awe, Eager for March 21

I've written thank you notes to all three speakers: Terri Phelps, Reese Little, and Vicki Runnion. I may need to write one to Carol Harston for asking me serve as facilitator. From Terri speaking so vulnerably of her "dark night of the soul," to Reece's describing the "warm breath of a milk cow on a cold winter morning" as the "very breath of God," to Vicki's telling of throwing her Bible in the trash, realizing the Scripture is best embraced not through imposed interpretations, rather through an open and searching heart. I remain in awe of the gifts these individuals gave us. I am in eager anticipation of what the next three will have to say. Come join us on March 21, April 18, and May 16 to find out. ~ Bob Cunningham



A Note of Thanks

I want to extend thanks for all the cards, expressions of sympathy and prayers as our family experienced the great loss of my sister, Greg's aunt, Darleen Redmon. A week earlier, we also experienced the loss of my nephew, Jimmie Adamson. We cannot begin to express how wonderful and comforting it is to know you are surrounded with love, thoughts and prayers during these sad times. We are truly thankful and blessed for our wonderful community of faith that is Highland Baptist Church.

~ Mary, Jim and Greg Clark

Around Highland ...

... The Highland Book Club will meet on Sunday, January 28, 6:00 p.m., at the home of Pat Ramsey to discuss *An Irish Country Doctor* by Patrick Taylor. Everyone is invited!

... If you have not picked up your 2018 offering envelopes, please do so! They are located in the office workroom (across from the women's restroom on the 1st floor). As of today, there are **39 boxes** and it costs **\$3.00/each** to mail them out. Thank you!

Highland Highlights from Sunday's Services



Sunday's Reception and Celebration Service in honor of Joe Phelps' 21-year ministry as Pastor of Highland Baptist Church could not have happened without the incredible aid, assistance, talent, and out-pouring of love from our entire faith community and some people in particular!

Highland's ministerial and support staff greatly appreciate the following people:

- * Pictures taken by Bill Campbell.
- * Publicity created by Paige Harlow.
- * Ushers and seating secured by Bill Martin.
- * Sound & overflow seating by Gary Waller, Walter McWhorter, and Steve Helm.
- * Mailings compiled by office volunteers.
- * Worship care volunteers and teachers, and especially our volunteers who subbed in so that all could attend worship who wished, or were on-call to serve if needed: Lisa Estes, Kate Holm, Katie Williams, Drew Harston, Kamaran Holt, Geoff Meehan, and Bob Belcher.
- * Child caregivers during the celebration service: Megan DeWhatley, Addie Gray, Allie Piatt, and Lauren Sharp.
- * Reception provided by our Hospitality Ministry Group with food donated by Bible Study classes.
- * Framed picture for Joe by Angela Crompton and Brenda Haley.
- * Memory book created by Troy Burden.
- * Reception given before Friday Church by the Friday Church Ministry Group.
- * Creation of the Joe Phelps Legacy Fund by Finance and Personnel Ministry Groups.
- * Support, memories, and flowers for worship by Joe's 1997 Pastor Search Group and David King.
- * Video by Mac Brown.
- * Gift of new music by Austin Echols.
- * Music leadership by the Sanctuary Choir.
- * Quilt created by Debbie Holladay.
- * Shawl given by the Prayer Shawl Missions Group.

