

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 PROCLAIMER
jim@hbclouisville.org

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

Carol Harston
carol@hbclouisville.org
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR FAITH FORMATION AND CONGREGATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

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 Rynnion
vicrun55@gmail.com
DEACON CHAIR

Becki Streif
bstreif@twc.com
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Deb Ackerson
deb@hbclouisville.org
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Andria Eadens
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

A Look Toward Ash Wednesday and Beyond

The service that begins our Lenten journey, known as Ash Wednesday, is February 14. This is a service of penitence and humbleness, giving us time to reflect on our own mortality and sinfulness and allowing us time to turn from those things in our lives that we know are harmful and not Christ centered.

Ash Wednesday takes on a deeper meaning by being the entrance point to the Lenten season—a season in the church year where we remember the forty days before the crucifixion; where we make preparation for the celebration of the major event of the liturgical year and for the central event of our lives: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Ash Wednesday becomes a poignant remembrance of last year's Palm Sunday and Easter celebrations, for we have saved the palm branches from that service and we burn them until they become ash which is then used to create a sign of penitence upon our foreheads this year. The use of ashes during the service gives an outward sign of our inward connection to the hope of death and resurrection. It also reminds us that we were formed from the dust of the earth, and that we will return to the earth at our last day. Highland's ministers will also impose ashes on all infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who will be in childcare, as well as Carol Choir, and their teachers.

Join us next Wednesday, February 14, at 6:15 p.m., in the Sanctuary, to experience a journey toward Easter filled with the wholeness and humanity that God dreams for us.



Choral Concert at Highland, February 21

Highland welcomes *Coro Vocati* in concert on Wednesday, February 21, 6:15 p.m. *Coro Vocati* is a group of professional singers based in Atlanta, called to create music at the highest level of choral artistry. Dr. John Dickson serves as conductor and Dr. Jonathan Crutchfield as accompanist. You will want to make a note of this wonderful choral opportunity and also welcome home John who served Highland as Minister of Music, and Jonathan, who served Highland as Organist and as well as Minister of Music. This wonderful choir will be in Louisville to sing at the Southern Division Conference of the American Choral Directors Association. Please mark your calendar and invite family and friends!

Highland Welcomes...



Rebecca Street Smith & Aaron Smith

Save the Date: Women's Retreat, March 9-10

Our annual Women's retreat is scheduled for March 9-10 at Loretto, beginning with dinner on Friday and going through 4:00 on Saturday. Sign-ups begin February 11. Cost for the retreat is \$60 and you can pay on Sunday mornings or online. This year's theme will be shared in next week's newsletter.

Congregational Representatives Start Their Work

The church nominated and elected five new Congregational Representatives who began their three-year term on the Ministry Council yesterday. The Ministry Council is composed of the ministerial staff; the chair of Finance, Robert Davis; the Chair and Vice Chair of Deacons, Vicki Rynnion and Kim Shippey; the Chair and Vice Chair of the Ministry Council, Becki Streif and Lauren Blackwell; and six Congregational Representatives. Patti Gilpin is returning, and our new folks are Steve Brown, Lee Cave, Hollan Holm, Robert Kahne, and Anita Roper.

The Ministry Council's responsibilities per our Bylaws include:

- Function as a strategic planning forum for the church
- Serve as the ministry coordinating group for the church
- Guide the implementation of directions and purposes set by the church
- Conduct periodic reviews of the effectiveness of church ministries, program, and activities
- Identify any needs currently not being addressed and refer such items to any and all appropriate ministry groups; or if needed, form a task force to evaluate needs or specific projects
- Form the agenda for the Quarterly Church Conferences
- Nominate the Clerk, Moderator, Comptroller, and members of the Committee on Ministry Groups. These nominations will be presented for approval at the October Quarterly church Conference each year, and whenever vacancies occur.

It is important to know how the work of the church is done, and who is assisting in making that happen. Please take time, especially in this time of transition, to be informed.



Lauren Blackwell



Steve Brown



Lee Cave



Patti Gilpin



Hollan Holm



Robert Kahne



Anita Roper

Weekend Services Transfiguration Sunday

Mark 9:2-8

Who Doesn't Want a Parade?
Jim England, Proclaimer

Anthem Premier:
Morning Has Broken
Earlene Rentz, Composer

Liminal Wonderings...

In his book *The Shantung Compound: The Story of Men and Women Under Pressure*, Langdon Gilkey wrote about people imprisoned in a Japanese internment camp in Northern China. He described the group as business people, missionaries, doctors, professors, prostitutes and junkies all crammed into an old mission station. They suffered privation but not torture, malnutrition but not starvation. He wrote "the fundamental bent of the total self in all of us was inward, toward our own welfare... and we hardly seemed able to see it in ourselves". They lost the necessary balance of doing our inner work and being outward with our kindness.

The retirement of a long term and beloved pastor pulls at us to focus on ourselves and away from our calling at this crossroads of our city. We need to grieve and do our inner work. We need to help each other with sensitivity and listening.

We also need to be outward. The work of love goes on. Our resolve is to be part of that work. Eric Liddell of "Chariots of Fire" fame, was imprisoned at that Shantung compound for two years. Liddell was a world class runner who became a missionary who taught science and chemistry to children. In prison he organized games and worship, taught science to children and cared for people of every sort. A Russian prostitute said that he put up some shelves for her and was the only man who did not want anything in return. Liddell started each day with prayer, Bible study and meditation. He found that sweet balance of tending his own soul and loving all.

May we tend our souls and continue the work of love.
~ Jim England

Highland's Word To Our Community



Summer Camp Registration Opens This Week

It is hard to imagine on these cold, snowy February days that summer is just around the corner. And yet, it's that time again—time to register your child(ren) for Vacation Bible School Camp (completed K-3rd grade) and PASSPORT *kids!* (completed 4th-5th grade). Mark the dates below on your calendar and watch for an email this week with registration forms, initial deposit amounts and how to sign up!

Children's Corner

Bible Study Teacher Appreciation Month in February

Join us in February as we find ways to honor our Bible study teachers at Highland, and specifically the teachers who guide and nurture your children in faith each week through Bible study, music, and mission. We invite you to make a donation to help us complete our *Building Love* capital campaign in honor of a beloved Bible study teacher, past or present. Please contact Deb Ackerson in the church office to make that designated donation, deb@hbclouisville.org.

You may want to consider other ways to show your appreciation for our children's teachers. For example, your family might choose to make homemade cards for your child's teachers, write a song or a poem or create a piece of beautiful artwork. Use your imagination as you think on how to honor the teachers in our midst. On the final Sunday of the month, the Families with Children Ministry Group will honor all of our teachers in a unique way.

The best part—you have an entire month to express your gratitude! A class list of Bible study teacher names will be available on the tables in the Nursery, Preschool and Children's Commons areas throughout the building. If you have questions, contact Renee at renee@hbclouisville.org.

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

HBC Got Skillz, Sunday, February 25, 5:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$10 Adults, \$5 Children, \$30 Family Max

To show of your Skillz, sign up on Sunday mornings in the Commons after worship or in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday evenings during dinner. You can also contact Susan Coleman Layman. The deadline to sign up to perform is February 18! Contact Susan with questions!

HBC Got Skillz is one of our favorite traditions at Highland—a community wide variety show and potluck dinner (with dessert), all in support of the youth ministry's partnership with Touching Miami with Love!

Youth Corner

This Wednesday

6:00 p.m. in the Youth Suite

This Sunday

9:30 a.m.—Bible Study
4:00 p.m.—MS Girls Group
7:00 p.m.—HS Girls Group

Lunch at El Nopal—EVERY WEEK!

Yes, you read that correctly! The Young Adults will have lunch together every Sunday from here until the end of time, or at least until we cannot say the words "cheese dip" anymore. Spread the word. Find us at the one on Baxter Avenue (across from Wicks Pizza) at 12:15 p.m. by following the cactus.

Young Adult Corner

Hymns for the Hymnless, March 4

Save the date. More information coming soon. If you want to help plan/lead, email Mary Miller Dwyer or Lauren Jones Mayfield (laurenjm@hbclouisville.org).

Theology on Tap, March 8

We will continue our three-part series on the Trinity. Carol Harston will guide discussion about the Redeemer in March, and Nina Maples will point the way to the Sustainer in April. ***Note the date change for March only—this is the second Thursday of the month, not the first.

Wednesday Night Adult Programming

Last Class of Winter Term: 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. Highland's Anti-Racism Team is providing some copies of *Innocent Bystanders* for purchase in Fellowship Hall for \$12.

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.

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



February 8: Libation Theology

Libation Theology provides an informal gathering time to share a meal, nurture communion with the larger faith family, and grow in our understanding of "the worship that is our daily lives." Libation Theology provides the time to have conversations longer than the 5-minute ones we have in the hallway between worship services. Join us this Thursday, February 8, for our monthly Libation Theology at 6:30 p.m. We will gather in the loft area at Molly Malone's in St. Matthews (the corner of Shelbyville Road and Breckinridge Lane). No reservation required. For more information, please contact Carol Harston, Lance Springs or Becki Streif. **February's Topic:** Fasting during Lent is one of the three pillars of spiritual practice, along with prayer and almsgiving, and invites preparation for Easter. Can fasting help people clarify thoughts, purify intention or prepare us to pray more deeply? The Gospel text for Ash Wednesday, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21, discusses those three pillars and ends with Jesus' admonition to store up for ourselves treasures in heaven through heart-driven spiritual practices. What do we treasure and what are we willing to give up for a season or longer?

Ministry Council Report

Highland Baptist Church Ministry Council met Monday evening, February 5. The meeting opened with a devotion from Nina on Highland Baptist Church's core values. There was an enjoyable time of introductions as the newly-voted congregational representatives attended their first meeting and began their respective terms. There was, also, a time of reviewing and understanding Ministry Council duties and responsibilities. The Ministry Council spent time reading and studying the Highland Baptist Church's Mission, Vision and Core Values in order for the Ministry Council to assist HBC's community of faith live out these principles and values. Ministry Council heard monthly reports from Deacons, Finance and Personnel. The Ministry Council will meet again on Monday, March 5.

Church Business Corner

This Week at Highland

Tuesday, February 6

Cream of the Crop Trip (Off-site)..... 12 p.m.
 Emma Leachman Women's Group (103) 4 p.m.
 Hope for a Brighter Day (FH) 5:30 p.m.
 G.R.O.W. (103) 6 p.m.
 Richard Rohr Book Study for Men (FS) 7:30-9 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 10 p.m.

Wednesday, February 7

Fellowship Supper (FH)5:20-6 p.m.
 Children's Activities6-7:15 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.
 Deacon Group (103) 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 8

Anti-Racism Team (Commons) 6 p.m.
 Libation Theology (Off-site)..... 6:30 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 7 p.m.

Friday, February 9

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

Sunday, February 11

Worship.....8:30 a.m.
 Worship.....9:30 a.m.
 Bible Study9:30 a.m.
 Worship..... 11 a.m.
 Bible Study 11 a.m.
 Families with Children MG (201)..... 12:30 p.m.
 Mission and Justice MG (Youth Suite) 12:30 p.m.
 Adult Handbell rehearsal (200)2-3 p.m.

Monday, February 12

Finance MG (103) 6 p.m.

Tuesday, February 13

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

Upcoming Events at Highland

February	Teacher Appreciation Month
February 8	Libation Theology
February 10	MensWork Breakfast
February 14	Ash Wednesday Service
February 18	Lobby Training
February 21	<i>Coro Vocati</i> Choral Concert
February 24	Families with Children Family Fun Night
February 25	HBC Got Skillz
March 4	Highland Book Club; Hymns for the Hymnless

Wednesday Night Menus

February 7

Spaghetti & Meatballs
 Broccoli
 Caesar Salad
 Vegetable Salad
 Garlic Bread
 Dessert

February 14

Chicken Parmigiana
 Buttered Noodles
 Zucchini & Yellow Squash
 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.

This Week's Deacons

Friday, 7:00 p.m.

Mary Burks, Becky Smith (C)

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Allison French (C), Nathan Marrs (G),
 Gene Streible, Tyler Swim

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Mary Burks (C), Libby Cunningham,
 Jim McBee, Mike McFall (G)

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Cheryl Davis (C), John Foster (G),
 Sharon Sanders, Ginny Sims

Eventbrite

Crescent Hill Baptist Church 2800 Frankfort Ave, Louisville, KY 40206

If you would like to volunteer the night of the event, contact Chris Sanders.



**Missions
Corner**

Habitat for Humanity Team

The Habitat Mission Team invites you to join this year's Baptist Habitat houses #25 and #26. Raise the Roof—the first three days of building—will kick off the project on April 12-14!

We are looking for a few good friends to join Highland's new Habitat for Humanity Mission Team to help us organize workers, provide lunches and more. If you are interested in learning more about how the team will function and use your time and talents, contact Jim McBee or Sam Rose for more details.

Immigration Team

Highland's partnership with the Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Justice (ICIJ) coupled with our ongoing commitment to coming alongside migrant and refugee people here in Louisville offers us growing opportunity for involvement in this ministry work. If you would like to learn more and/or join this team, contact Kate Dittmeier Holm.

Lobby Training, February 18, at 12:30 p.m.

As people of faith, we engage our political leaders and elected officials with a certain urgency and commitment to seeing God's justice in the public square. This clearly happens in a variety of ways—letter writing, postcard sending, calling state and national legislators, marching, rallying, etc.

Do you have interest in participating more in this type of activity? Are you nervous because this is new to you? Do you want to know what to say when visiting with a representative?

Then, we welcome you to attend Highland's LOBBY TRAINING on Sunday, February 18, at 12:30 p.m., in the Commons. Grab some lunch after worship concludes and together, while we eat, we will role-play, educate ourselves about various issues that are showing up in bills this session, as well as consider some dates that we might travel together to Frankfort.

Upcoming Lobby Days in Frankfort

If you plan to attend any of these lobby days or if you would like to attend and need more information, contact Lauren and she can help connect you to the right people (laurenjm@hbclouisville.org).

- February 13—KY Student Environmental Coalition
- *February 14—MOMS Demand Action for Gun Sense
- *February 21—Fairness Campaign (LGBTQ)
- *March 7—Immigrants and Refugees, rally at 12:30 p.m.
- * Members from Highland planning to attend.



Members of the Emma Leachman Global Women Group, along with a few of their spouses, volunteered at Dare to Care this past week. Together, they boxed and prepared for distribution 7,500 pounds of meat.

Around Highland...

... The MensWork Breakfast scheduled for this Saturday, February 10, has been canceled. Please join us for the Men's Gathering and all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast next Saturday, February 17, 8:00 a.m., at Fourth Presbyterian Church.

... The Highland Book Club will meet on Sunday, March 4, 6:00 p.m., in room 103, to discuss *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson. Everyone is invited!

... HBC Office Support Volunteers are 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 you are interested.

... The Center for Women and Families (CWF) will honor five Women of Distinction and present the Joan E Thomas Lifetime



Award for Peacemaking at the 31st Celebration of Service & Survival on Friday, February 16, at the Downtown Marriott Hotel. One of the five honorees is Highland member Cathe Dykstra. Cathe is the Chief Possibility Officer, President, and CEO of Family Scholar House, where she devotes her talents to helping single parents earn college degrees. Under her leadership, the program has flourished from serving 4 families to serving over 3,000 families annually. Cathe has been instrumental in confronting the needs of women and children in the Louisville area, overseeing \$78 million in construction and renovations to the campuses. Join us in celebrating Cathe for her lifetime of profound, transformative service to women and children in our city!

True Colors Breakfast, Saturday, February 24

True Colors invites LGBTQ members of our church community and allies for a breakfast together on Saturday, February 24, 9:00-10:30 a.m. The purpose of this breakfast is to dream together about what the church envisions for the future of True Colors and LGBTQ ministry at Highland. RSVP at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0949ada729a0fb6-dreaming> so we can plan accordingly for breakfast!

Cream of the Crop Trip, March 17

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 Saturday, March 17, as we travel to General Butler State Park. We will meet in the church's parking lot at 11:00 a.m. RSVP to Billie Johnson at 412-6031 by Wednesday, March 14.

HCM 2018 Lenten Lunch Series

Join Highlands Community Ministries (HCM) for the Lenten Lunch Series, a simple lunch of soup and bread, served by HCM member congregations with a short devotion for the Lenten Season, Thursdays, noon-1:00 p.m. This year's theme is "Dynamic Duos". For more information, visit <http://www.hcmlouisville.org>.

Date	Location
February 22	Deer Park Baptist Church, 1733 Bardstown Rd.
March 1	Highlands Community Campus (home of HCM), 1228 E Breckenridge
March 8	Strathmoor Presbyterian Church, 2201 Hawthorne Ave.
March 15	Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church, 1722 Bardstown Rd.
March 22	St. Paul United Methodist Church, 2000 Douglass Blvd.

Next Men's Gathering, Saturday, February 17

Highland Men will gather at Fourth Presbyterian Church (Preston and Hess Lane), 8:00 a.m., for an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast on Saturday, February 17. We will have a good time of mingling and news about opportunities in our community for outreach. Fourth Presbyterian is in the area for Ministries United South Central Louisville (MUSCL). We ask each man to bring 4-5 items for the MUSCL food closet and \$5. Items that are always high in demand are: peanut butter, canned tuna, macaroni and cheese, diapers, baby formula, canned vegetables and fruit, and soup.

Fat Tuesday, February 13, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

at Highlands Community Campus (1228 East Breckenridge at Barret Avenue)

Thirteen Highlands restaurants, local brews and coffee, and more! Music and dancing provided by Billy Goat Strut Revue and Lindy Hop Louisville. Purchase tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-taste-of-the-highlands-2018-tickets-42159776025?aff=es2>



You Are Invited!

Join us as we celebrate
The work & ministry of the

Reverend Joseph Phelps

Change-maker, Instigator,
Bridge-builder & Pastor

Sunday, February 11, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Program at 4:15 p.m.
St. Stephen Family Life Center
1508 W Kentucky Street
Louisville, KY 40210

We gather to celebrate and honor Joe's work
as pastor and community leader and we ask you
to participate in the ministry that continues
by considering a gift in his honor to one
of the following programs:

Empower West
alumnet.simmons.edu.giving
Insert Empower West in comments section

*Dr. Emmanuel McCall Racial & Justice
Leadership Initiative*
Cbf.net/mccallinitiative