

Where transformed people are joining the work of God.



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
1101 Cherokee Road
Louisville, KY 40204



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

A thinking, feeling, healing community of faith

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Pastor Search Committee Members to be voted on in June

The Ad Hoc Committee to recommend the Pastor Search Committee is pleased to put forward 10 names for the Pastor Search Committee for the congregation to vote on in June. The Pastor Search Committee will have 7 members and 3 alternates. The Ad Hoc Committee received over 40 nominations from the congregation for the Pastor Search Committee. Of those nominations, 20 of the nominees responded with a self-nomination form where they were able to express their reasons for wanting to serve on the Pastor Search Committee.

The Ad Hoc Committee met and reviewed these 20 nominations and prayerfully considered which 10 to put forward to the congregation for a vote. It is the desire of the Ad Hoc Committee to ensure that the Pastor Search Committee represents the wide diversity of the membership of Highland Baptist Church. Areas that we considered included skills sets, areas of participation in the life of Highland, years of membership, as well as typical demographics such as age, sex, orientation, family, stage of life, etc.

The following 10 folks will be voted on by the church to serve on the Pastor Search Committee (7 members, 3 alternates): Kathy Belcher, Noah Cooksey, Bob Cunningham, Michael DeWhatley, Billy Flood, Alecia Fuller, Carolyn King, Alana Maddox, Earl Shelp, Tyler Swim. Biographies and pictures of those nominated can be found on page 4 of this newsletter. We submit these names prayerfully to the Church.

~ The Ad Hoc Committee: *Vicki Runnion, Ashley Hostetter, Dana Connor-Israel, David Wells, Mary Burks, Tony Dougherty, and Troy Burden.*



Highland Baptist Church celebrates 125 years

On May 11, 1893, twenty-seven charter members of Highland Baptist Church held their first Sunday service in the sanctuary. We celebrate 125 years at the corner of Grinstead and Cherokee.



Families with Children Gather Saturday for Evening of Service Projects

Avenues of service with young children can be challenging to find, as many agencies have age limitations on service making it difficult for parents with young children to participate together as a family. And yet, one of the most pivotal times of practicing service to others is during these formative childhood years. In an effort to meet the needs of families looking for a way to give back to the community and to meet the needs of newcomers to our city, the Families with Children Ministry Group will host a night of service projects specifically focused on care of refugees and immigrants in our community through our connection with Kentucky Refugee Ministries this Saturday evening from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Together, we will learn more about refugees and their needs, and we will create care kits (first aid, preschool, baby care) to address some of those needs first hand. We will meet through the wonders of video technology some of the people who participate in KRM's Family Center, which meets in Highland's space three mornings per week. KRM plans to use these care kits for education purposes as families are settling here in Louisville and participating in ESL classes here in our building. If your family with young children (birth-5th grade) would like to attend (older siblings are welcome!), RSVP to Renee Purtlebaugh at renee@hbclouisville.org by Wednesday, May 9. More details for participants can be found in this week's Children's Corner.



**HIGHLAND BAPTIST MUSIC MINISTRY
HANDBELL & ORCHESTRA SPRING CONCERT
Wednesday, May 23 ■ 6:15 p.m.**



All ages from preschoolers through adults are welcome to attend the concert. Childcare will be provided for infants and toddlers. Our regular Wednesday evening meal will be served 5:20-6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Contact the church office by 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays for a dinner reservation.

**Weekend Services
Ascension Sunday**

Acts 1
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

Jim England, Proclaimer

Ascension Anthem:
Sing Praises to God

**Reception Honors
Nina Maples on May 20**

We will celebrate Nina's twenty years of ministry with a reception on Sunday, May 20, following our morning services.

You are invited to help honor Nina's ministry among us through words and tokens of appreciation.



Watch your email for more information.

Congregational Conversation: Save the Date

The Pastoral Interim Committee will offer opportunities for the church to gather and offer feedback on the interim period on Wednesday, May 30, at 6:15 p.m. For those unable to attend, the Pastoral Interim Committee will offer other ways to be heard in the coming weeks.

Liminal Wonderings...

This is one of my favorite times of year because my garden is coming alive! Those buds and blooms that have been unseen through the cold days of winter have been resting and gaining strength, all in preparation to burst forth in their appointed season. Some of my plants have bravely poked their heads up even though the cold and snow have railed against their entrance, yet they persist.

As I clean and prepare the beds for this season, I am aware of where each plant and bulb is nestled. Seen or unseen, I know where they live and await their appearance. Each year, I also have the task of rearranging parts of the garden. Some plants have grown too big for their current habitat and need a new home. Others need more light as the trees above them grow and shade their home.

As I work outside in this beautiful oasis, I am reminded of you, Highland. You are in a season of transition and disorientation, but you have a Master Gardener who knows each of you and knows this spiritual home we call Highland. Our Master Gardener

(continued on page 3)

This Wednesday

Carol returns to spend time with the youth (6:00-7:15 p.m.) while Perry facilitates a Parent Workshop in the Fireside Room (6:10-7:15 p.m.)!



This Sunday

Youth Bible Study will be at 9:30am in the Youth Suite.
Graduating seniors will be recognized in worship to celebrate their transition from high school into life beyond!

An Evening of Service Projects, This Saturday

The Families with Children Ministry Group invites you to join us for an evening of family service projects followed by dinner! We will gather on Saturday, May 12, 5:00-7:00 p.m., in Fellowship Hall, to put our faith into action in care of refugees and immigrants in our community through connections with Kentucky Refugee Ministries. Together we will create customized kits for first aid, preschool and baby care.

Participants are encouraged to bring some of the following items to create our kits (items should be new/sealed for baby care and first aid): elementary school size backpack, round tip child scissors, glue sticks, band-aids of assorted sizes, antibiotic ointment, digital thermometer, gauze, medical tape, baby bath wash, baby lotion, diaper crème, baby nail clippers and baby wash clothes. Our ministry group will also provide some items for kit creation. After our projects are complete, we will have a meal together. This gathering is designed for families with children of all ages. RSVP to renee@hbclouisville.org by Wednesday, May 9 if your family plans to attend!



Important Dates to Remember!

May 12	Family Service Projects + Dinner, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
May 16	3 rd and Final PASSPORT <i>kids!</i> Camp Payment Due
June 26-29	PASSPORT <i>kids!</i>
July 20-22	Vacation Bible School Camp

Graduation Celebration This Sunday

If you plan to graduate this Spring, please inform Lauren soon. Include your degree, the school from which you will graduate, your plans for the immediate future, and an RSVP to Graduate Recognition Sunday on May 13.



Theology on Tap This Thursday

We begin a new four-month series this Thursday, May 10. Who are you: online (May 10), at church (June 7), at work (July 5), and at home (August 2). Billy Flood, the social media guru among us, will lead the first in this series. All YAs are welcome to join us at Baxter 942 at 6:00 p.m. for free apps. Conversation begins at 6:30 p.m.

Sweat4Syria May 19

Join us as we join with KY Refugee Ministries to raise \$10,000 for local Syrian refugees. We will jog a 5K through Iroquois Park for the low price of \$20. The YAs invite the entire church to this fit and fabulous upcoming event. Learn more, RSVP, and register at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1938956736415543/>. There will be food trucks, live music, and other kid-friendly fun after the race.

Hymns for the Hymnless June 10

Mark your calendars now, the next Hymns for the Hymnless will be Sunday, June 10, at 7:00 p.m. Let Lauren know if you'd like to help craft the worship or lead the service.

Last Week for Adult Wednesday Evening Classes

Contemplative Prayer (*Bruce Rogers*): While religious institutions argue over doctrine, politicians fight for power, and companies vie for our consumption, we seek to follow the Way of Love. This Way of Love requires an active life—one that is lived amongst a world in need *and* one that is lived amongst the silence in solitude. Thomas Merton writes that contemplative prayer for the urban dwellers feeds the “need for a certain interior silence and discipline simply to keep themselves together, to maintain their human and Christian identity and their spiritual freedom.” Amidst busy Wednesday nights, how might we learn and practice contemplative prayer that restores, prepares, and sends us forth? This class meets in the Commons.

Introduction to the Enneagram (*Nina Maples*): Many people around Highland are talking about numbers, types, and wings, and you may be wondering... what is this “Enneagram” and how do I understand why it keeps coming up? Nina Maples, our resident Enneagram expert, will lead an introductory course to help people new to the Enneagram learn the different types, understand its purpose, and become intrigued with this ancient tool for personal, spiritual, and communal growth. This class meets in Fellowship Hall.

Youth Parents (*Perry Dixon*): This will be a space for all parents to gather to share wisdom, resources, experiences, hardship and joy in an authentic space. Through this intentional gathering, we will be reminded that we do not parent on an island. Instead, our hope and goal is to be in this together! This class meets in the Fireside Room.

May 10: 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.” Join us this Thursday, May 10, 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.

May 16: Cloud of Witnesses: Stories from Saints-In-Process

Highland’s sanctuary is filled with saints—the ones in the stained-glass windows who have completed the race *and* the ones in the pews who are still in process. When we assume saints to be perfect people, we miss the truth they have to share. Saints are the ones who wonder if God is up to something and step out in humility and boldness to share their glimpses of the divine. Story-telling by these “Saints-in-Process” makes God visible for the church. Join us Wednesday, May 16, for our final Cloud of Witnesses of the semester as Bob Cunningham facilitates a conversation with Kristie Abney, Jim England, and Tyler Swim who will share their faith journey.





Tuesday, May 8

Hope for a Brighter Day (FH) 5:30 p.m.
 Finance MG (Pastor's Office) 6 p.m.
 G.R.O.W. #1 (103) 6 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 10 p.m.

Wednesday, May 9

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—Contemplative Prayer
 (Commons)6:10-7:10 p.m.
 Adult Class—Introduction to the Enneagram
 (FH)6:10-7:10 p.m.
 Adult Class—Youth Parents (FS)6:10-7:10 p.m.
 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal (Choir Room)7:15-8:15 p.m.

Thursday, May 10

Theology on Tap (Off-site) 6 p.m.
 Libation Theology (Off-site) 6:30 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 7 p.m.

Friday, May 11

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

Saturday, May 12

MensWork Breakfast (FS)8:30 a.m.
 Family Service Project and Dinner (FH)5-7 p.m.

Sunday, May 13

Worship8:30 a.m.
 Worship9:30 a.m.
 Bible Study9:30 a.m.
 Mission and Justice NTL Touch Base (101) 10:30 a.m.
 Worship 11 a.m.
 Bible Study 11 a.m.
 Families with Children MG (201)12:30 p.m.

Monday, May 14

Anti-Racism Team (Commons) 6 p.m.

Tuesday, May 15

Hope for a Brighter Day (FH) 5:30 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 10 p.m.

Upcoming Events at Highland

May 10 Theology on Tap; Libation Theology
 May 12 Family Service Project and Dinner
 May 13 Graduation Celebration
 May 20 Celebration for Nina Maples;
 Children's Spring Music Program
 May 23 Handbell/Orchestra Spring Concert
 May 28 Church Offices Closed
 May 30 Last Wednesday of Regular Programming;
 Congregational Conversation

Wednesday Night Menus

May 9	May 16
Meat Lasagna	Honey Glazed Ham
Zucchini & Yellow Squash	Mixed Greens/Broccoli
Caesar Salad	Roasted Sweet & Red Potatoes
Italian Garden Salad	7 Layer Salad
Garlic Bread	Corn Bread
Dessert	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.

TBD

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Tony Dougherty, Sharon Sanders,
Tyler Swim (C)

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

David Bannister (G), Libby Cunningham,
Susan Pierce (C)

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

John Foster (G), Holly Harris,
Becky Holloman (C), Ginny Sims

Graduates Recognized in Worship This Sunday

This Sunday in worship, Lauren and Perry will recognize all of Highland's graduates from high school, college, and graduate/professional school. Please email them the institution from which you are graduating and the degree you have earned so that we can celebrate your journey of endurance, achievement and success! Highland deeply values education and recognizes that each academic journey is unique. Though we support one another along the way, we want to recognize, also, that each journey takes remarkable individual effort, whether following traditional timelines and routes, going back later in one's career, taking the pace that life has allowed, or anywhere in between. In next week's newsletter, you will find pictures of all our graduates with their information included.

Liminal Wonderings... (continued from page 1)

watches over you as things in the garden need to be pruned, rearranged, or cultivated. The waiting and grief from change can be disorienting. You are in the process of making room for new growth to appear, and as Easter people, you await the time of resurrection. The One who tills and works this soil has a vision for how it will look and thrive. My prayer is you will trust the process of rebirth even though it is uncertain and painful at times. I trust in a God who has always, and in all ways, been faithful to God's people. That has not and will not change. I love each of you and will be praying for you in these times of transition.

~ Nina

Note: There has been some confusion floating around. I have not taken another job. I may be helping with a 4 hour a week internship for spiritual direction in the fall, and I will do some private spiritual direction a few hours a week. If you should need me, I promise I will be in my garden!

Church Gathers for Annual Picnic June 6

We celebrate the beginning of summer with our annual Church Picnic on Wednesday, June 6, 5:00-9:00 p.m., at Hogan's Fountain in Cherokee Park. Cost is the same as Wednesday night meals: \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for kids ages 4-12, and \$21 max per household. We will take reservations on Wednesday nights (beginning May 16) and on Sunday mornings in the Commons (beginning May 20). Volunteers are needed to help transport supplies from church to the park, set-up, serve food, cleanup, and return supplies to church. Please contact Carol Harston if you are able to lend a hand!

True Colors Begins Again

On Sunday, 15 members of Highland's LGBTQ community and allies gathered in the Fireside Room for a new season of LGBTQ ministry. Earlier this year, in March, 40 Highland members gathered for True Colors' Dreaming Together Breakfast, where those present put their imaginations together to dream new initiatives to be adopted by the ministry. On Sunday, led by new Co-Chair Lacy Hudgins, the group began to plan for the Pride Parade and Festival this June, discern the best stewardship of the True Colors budget, and to review the Dreaming Together Report to select which initiatives to pursue after Pride this year. All LGBTQ members and allies are especially invited to join with us this June, as we recognize Pride in worship on Sunday, June 10, and as we participate in the Kentuckiana Pride Parade (7:00 p.m. Friday) and host a booth for the Festival on June 15 and 16! We also look forward to more Highland members joining us for our yearlong efforts toward answering God's call for welcome, inclusion, affirmation, healing and advocacy.

Cream of the Crop Gathering May 24

Cream of the Crop is a group, retirement age and above, that gathers monthly. Our activities range from potlucks to trips to local places of interest. We hope you will join us for a noon potluck lunch at the home of Gloria and Jim McBee (5409 Random Way) on Thursday, May 24. RSVP to Gloria McBee by Sunday, May 20.

Around Highland...

... The Highland Book Club will meet on Sunday, June 10, at 6:00 p.m., in room 103, to discuss Salvage the Bones: A Novel by Jesmyn Ward. Everyone is invited!

... We rejoice with Jenny Vaughn and Justin Owings on the birth of their baby.



Weekly Financial Report April 29, 2018 (17 weeks)

	Weekly Requirement	Receipts This Week	YTD Requirements	YTD Receipts	YTD Over/Under
Contributions	\$24,392.21	\$8,624.00	\$362,507.49	\$336,349.12	(\$26,158.37)
Other Income	\$1,034.14	\$912.00	\$17,580.26	\$20,099.14	\$2,518.88
Total	\$25,426.35	\$9,536.00	\$380,087.75	\$356,448.26	(\$23,639.49)



2015 Building Renovation Project

Contributed this week \$222.00 Loan Balance \$55,255.00

Nominated Members for the Pastor Search Committee



Kathy Belcher has been a member for 39 years, serving in many roles of leadership including deacons, chair of deacons, Vision 20/20 Team, Wednesday night dinner coordinator, Usher, Bible study teacher, several ministry groups, as well as a past pastor search committee. Kathy is a retired nutrition educator, married to Bob Belcher, and has two grown children. In retirement, she has the time, energy, and dedication to Highland to work on the Pastor Search Committee and ensure the church she loves moves into the future.



Noah Cooksey has been a member for 13 years and has taught many Wednesday night classes, Bible study classes, and has served on the Adult Education Ministry Group. He volunteers for the children's programming and supports True Colors and some of our Senior Adults alongside his family. Noah teaches at Atherton High School and is married to Mary and they have 3 children (10, 8, 4). Noah is passionate about theology and education and hopes to ensure that Highland's prophetic voice of inclusion continues in our community.



Bob Cunningham has been an active member for 22 years with his wife, Libby, as they have raised their two children who are now grown and pursuing careers in ministry and service. Bob has been involved in many roles including: deacon, chair of deacons, young adult minister search committee, Bible Study teacher, anti-racism committee, as well led retreats. Bob is a retired hospital chaplain and feels that he has time to work on the search committee. He feels his listening skills, group facilitation experience, and his love for Highland will be assets to the Pastor Search Committee.



Michael DeWhatley has been a member for 4 years and serves with the deacons, the sanctuary choir, Young Adult Ministry Group, Habitat for Humanity Build Teams, and Bible study. Michael is married to Megan and works as the Associate Production Manager at Actors Theatre where he is currently on the search committee for their new Artistic Director. Michael is excited about the opportunity to continue to serve Highland and work with the church as we discern logistical planning, organizational structure, and how these transitions will move the church into the future with a new Senior Pastor.



Billy Flood has been a member for 5 years and participates in the sanctuary choir, Young Adult Ministry group, True Colors, co-teacher of the Catch-All Bible Study class, and has participated in Highland's booths at the Pride Festival. Billy has enjoyed being very active part of True Colors and the Young Adults. He is an Adjunct Professor at UofL and Spalding where he teaches classes on Cultural Diversity in Performance and Theatre History. Billy is passionate about Highland's Vision 20/20 and would proudly represent highland's desire to nurture the diversity and inclusion that he has found to be so refreshing.



Alecia Fuller has been a member for 17 years and has been active at Highland for all of her life, from children's ministry to youth ministry to young adults. She has served as a deacon, has been a Bible Study teacher, chaperone for youth trips, and a member of CFB Task Force, Young Adult Ministry Group, and the 3-2-1 Task Force. Alecia works as a Social Worker with Centerstone. She is grateful for the pastoral care and support that she received from the church during a particularly challenging time in her life which has given her perspective and appreciation for the role of the church. She would use her lifelong knowledge of Highland to ensure its future success.



Carolyn King has been a member for 40 years and is Chair of the Justice Ministry Group. Carolyn is a nursery sub, has been in the Sojourner's Class, and in the sanctuary choir, Finance committee, capital campaign, Jean Janes WMU, and served as a Bible study teacher. Carolyn is married to Steve and has two grown children. She is a retired Non Profit agency administrator. Her work experience provided training in boundary spanning leadership, creative problem solving, and strategic planning. She feels her justice orientation and commitment to Highland would make her an asset to the Pastor Search Committee.



Alana Maddox most recently joined Highland 2 years ago but was a member for 10 years previously for a total of 12 years. She is involved in the Prodigals Bible study class as well as the Anti-Racism Team and co-leader of the Justice Ministry Group. Alana has worked in the past as both Youth and Young Adult Ministers on church staff in Arkansas and Hawaii. Alana is widowed and has two grown children. She works at St Matthews Community Ministries as well as working at Just Solutions Mediation Services. She loves working in group settings and feels her big picture orientation will be helpful in this process for a church she loves.



Earl Shelp has been a member for 2 years and is involved in Adult Ministry Group, Nomads Bible study class, and Libation Theology. Though a relatively new member to Highland, moving back to Louisville after living in the Houston area, he is glad to be with us during this pivotal moment in its history. Earl is the retired director of a large non-profit organization Interfaith Care Partners; he also has taught at Baylor College of Medicine and the Institute of Religion (Houston), as well as Dartmouth College. He feels that his analytic thinking skills and experience as an ethics professor will help the committee be able to learn and think introspectively.



Tyler Swim has been a member of Highland for 22 years and has been involved for all of his years, having grown up in the church. He has been a faithful Wednesday Night Dinner volunteer, worked with the children's programs, taught Bible Study for children and youth, and served as a deacon, member of ordination councils, and as an usher. Tyler is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker at Western Day Treatment Center for Centerstone. His lifelong commitment to Highland has greatly shaped him and he wants to find the right Senior Pastor to ensue the mission, vision, and values of the church

END OF NEWSLETTER