

Where transformed people are joining the work of God.



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
1101 Cherokee Road
Louisville, KY 40204



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This Wednesday Night: Cloud of Witnesses

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 tomorrow evening, September 26, for another Cloud of Witness evening as Bob Cunningham facilitates a conversation with **Kathy Belcher, Steve Brown, and Billie Johnson** as they share their faith journey. *Other Dates for this Fall:* October 24, December 12.

This Sunday: Open House for Halter Family, Highland's Supported Missionaries

Please join us to celebrate and learn more about the wonderful medical work of our own Sarah (Belcher) Halter and her husband Dr. David Halter next Sunday, September 30, 2:00-5:00 p.m. (presentation at 3:00), in Fellowship Hall, hosted by Jean Janes and Emma Leachman Baptist Women groups and Global Partnerships Ministry Team. Sarah is the daughter of Bob and Kathy Belcher and grew up at Highland. Sarah, David, and their children have lived and served in East Africa for three years—with plans to return.



Congregation Votes to Enter into Relationship with Center for Congregational Health

On Sunday, September 23, the congregation gathered in Fellowship Hall to hear a presentation from Dr. Chris Gambill and Rev. Beth Kennett from the Center for Congregational Health. Following their presentation and time allotted for questions and discussion, the church was called into business session where the congregation overwhelmingly approved entering a covenant relationship with Chris and Beth for their services as transition facilitators. There is a place for all of us in this process as there will be gatherings in the coming weeks and months where we will have opportunities to work together on focus points like our heritage, mission, leadership, connections and future. While Chris and Beth will assist us in our gatherings, this process is congregational and we will let you know of important dates at the earliest opportunity.

Highlights Invites 33 New People into Life at Highland

The Commons has been a crowded place the past three weeks as 33 new people have gathered to hear more about life in this engaging, vibrant Christian church. Carol, Lauren, Perry, and Renee shared about our mission, vision, and core values, participating in the work of our mission teams, the work of ministry groups, our bedrock Baptist principles, opportunities to participate and engage, giving generously of our resources, and what membership means to us. This new group of people in our church bring with them a variety of gifts, denominational experience, and church backgrounds. They expressed gratitude for the welcome they have received here and their appreciation of the space to ask questions and seek answers together. What joy it is to share this life together as a community of faith. We invite all people to make room in your pew, your Bible study classes, your Wednesday night dinner table, and your hearts for these new people as they find their way to integrate into our life together. The ministerial staff offers many thanks for our faithful New Members Ministry Group and our Deacons as they provided meaningful hospitality over the past three weeks. *Did you miss Highlights but hope to attend again? Keep an eye out in a few months for word of another session!*



October 7: Bill Leonard Preaches on World Communion Sunday

We are excited to share that Dr. Bill Leonard will be our guest preacher on Sunday, October 7, in our three morning worship services. Dr. Leonard is the Professor of Divinity Emeritus at Wake Forest Divinity where he recently retired from a long career as its founding dean and professor of church history. We look forward to welcoming Dr. Leonard back in our pulpit on October 7 as we celebrate World Communion!



Weekend Services

Psalm 118
Mark 9:38-50

Children's Handbell and Chorister Choirs will lead in worship.

For the Living of These Days—A Word from Perry Dixon

The majority of our youth (and many adults at Highland) are hesitant to pray in front of one another. Invitations for youth to pray are typically met with averted eyes and silence. Our rule is if you volunteer someone else, you have to pray. And often it ends up being me, unless a youth is agreeable when I ask them if they would pray for us.

There are a couple of reasons I suspect are behind this state of things. The first is that on a basic level, we are not practiced enough. Praying on your own and in front of others is the only way to be comfortable doing it. I certainly don't pray as much as I should. So, I get that. Second, which I also definitely understand, is that we are not exactly sure what prayer means or does. Basically, we cannot always easily answer the question of "what's the point?"

Does God grant our prayers like wishes? Can we do anything extra to ensure our prayers are granted? If my prayers aren't "answered" does that mean I'm doing something wrong?
(continued to page 3)

Mark Your Calendar!

Please plan to attend the Quarterly Church Conference on Wednesday, October 17, at 6:15 p.m.

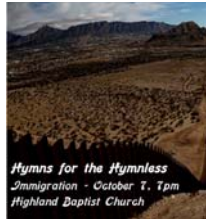
Highland's Word To Our Community



Mark Your Calendar!

This Wednesday, September 26—Youth Gathering, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Youth Suite
This Sunday, September 30—Bible Study, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; Guys Group, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Youth Corner



Hymns for the Hymnless: Immigration, October 7, 7:00 p.m.

The Young Adults will gather in Fellowship Hall next month for this 3rd worship event. If you would like to help plan our liturgy, join us tonight, September 25, at 7:00 p.m., in room 103. We will also consider music, setting the space, and how the realities of our current immigration crisis prompt us, as people of faith, to respond. Contact Lauren or Mary Miller Dwyer for more information. Better yet, plan to join us by simply showing up!

**Young Adult
Corner**

Tuesday Adult Bible Study - Fall 2018

You are invited to join us for seven Tuesday mornings, September 18-October 30, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., in the Commons, for TABS (Tuesday Adult Bible Study). The fall study is based on the Revelation to John. John Hendrix will be our guide as we discover insights about "The Reputation of a Church." The third session on October 2 will be about The Church in Pergamum, Rev. 2:12-17. Bring a Bible and a friend; and if you are on your lunch hour, feel free to bring your lunch. Beverages will be available. All are welcome. For more information, contact Lela Hendrix or Carol Harston.



October 3 & 10: Courage to Take Root – An Exploration of Ruth

Courageous Ruth. Ingenious Naomi. Generous Boaz. Silent God. Join us for a two-week Wednesday night study of the deceptively simple book of Ruth as we seek courage for our journey. Dr. Tyler Mayfield will lead adults, 6:15-7:15 p.m., in Fellowship Hall.

Adult Bible Study: Meet the Nomads Class!

Time & Location: 9:30 Bible Study Hour, Fellowship Hall

Class Description: Diverse in age and life experience, The Nomads nurture a strong sense of belonging through studying scripture, sharing laughter, and shedding tears. Robert Davis and Doris Hornbuckle create safe space for asking questions, exploring spirituality, and healing souls. Trust is a core value for them as they ensure that all feel comfortable bringing their real lives into their sacred space.

A Word from the Nomads: "I love the Nomads class. It is very diverse which I really like because you have such different input. I depend on this class to lift me up each week with the laughter and caring of all the members. It makes coming to church for me so meaningful. We do laugh a lot but we are all so serious about our Christian walk and how we can do it in the right way. This class means everything to me as I journey through this life. It has been a lifesaver for me." ~ Colleen Craft



A Note of Celebration—Church Beyond the Building

Last Wednesday, the "Climate for Change" event offered us a host of ways to reduce our carbon footprint, increase our solar dependency, and go electric with our vehicles. It was a really good evening, where we hosted many folks from the community and welcomed some other newbies to our Wednesday night routines. Thank you, **Environmental Action Team!** (Rachel Nally, Ben Self, Earl Shelp, and Anita Roper—contact any of them to join.)

Friday evening, eleven members of the **Immigration Team** attended KY Refugee Ministries' annual fundraiser gala, "Global Gourmet." International cuisine, live music and dancing, and a fabulous silent auction entertained several hundred folks. (Contact Jane Parker or Michael French if you'd like to learn more.) This included a financial gift to KRM of \$900.

Saturday morning the **Habitat for Humanity and Other Housing Solutions Team**, including 37 volunteers from church, donated 3-7 hours of time at a Portland Neighborhood park, playground, and home. We even had lunch from a local BBQ joint with the mayor. (Contact Bruce Carroll or Jim McBee to learn more.) This included a financial gift to Louisville Habitat for Humanity of \$2,500.

The last several Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings, members of the **Anti-Racism Team** with several of you from the congregation have been partnering with Kentuckians for the Commonwealth to support their voter registration drive in various, local neighborhoods.

Finally, yesterday afternoon, even amidst the inclement weather, **the Food Justice Team** supported Dare to Care's Hunger Walk. Reach out to Beverly Breyette or Lauren if you'd like to learn more. This included a financial gift to Dare to Care of \$1,000.

Church, what a lovely weekend of sharing resources, connecting with our community, and doing things that make for peace. So much love to each of you for this generosity of time and spirit. Be sure to check out all the photos. You all rock! ~ Lauren



**Missions
Corner**

Tamales are Back This Sunday

Delicious Tamales will once again be available in the Commons, this Sunday, September 30. The tamales are made and served with care by a mother of two. Donations made on Sunday will go directly to her. They will help her pay rent and other living expenses. Please stop by at noon and enjoy this generous contribution to our community.

Collecting Items

We invite you to once again fill the wooden bins outside the choir room with items for Highlands Community Ministries and the Mayfields' upcoming trek to Morocco. **HCM needs small toiletries**, which they pass out at their food pantry: bars of soap, toothpaste, shampoo, toilet paper, deodorant, laundry detergent, shaving cream and razors.

The Global Partnerships Team always stocks those traveling to **Morocco** with lots of goods to donate to the migrant ministries that have a surplus of need. Namely, we will collect for the next two Sunday: acetaminophen, ibuprofen, snack size and quart size baggies, travel size soap, washcloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste, band-aids, razors, gauze, and other small medical needs. Perhaps your Bible study class would like to commit to providing a certain number of health packets. If so, or for more information, please contact Terri Connolly or Robert Davis.



Empty Bowls, Highlands Community Ministries

Highlands Community Ministries' 22nd annual "Empty Bowls Hunger Benefit" will take place Thursday, October 11, 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m., at Bellarmine's Frazier Hall. Empty Bowls is an effort to help feed the hungry in The Highlands. The bowl and simple meal of soup, bread, cheese, and fruit stand as a reminder that many of our neighbors suffer from food insecurity. HCM's food pantry and senior nutrition programs help those in need, and the demand grows every year. To reserve your spot, visit <http://hcmloouisville.org/Event.aspx?id=29>.

ICIJ, September 25

The Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Justice meets tonight, September 25, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Contact Ryan Eller, Carolyn King, or a member of our Immigration Mission Team for more information. This ecumenical coalition exists to support local migrant and refugee people as well as other organizations in our city offering support services.



**This Week
at Highland**

Tuesday, September 25

Tuesday Adult Bible Study (Commons) .. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Hope for a Brighter Day (FH)5:30 p.m.
 Rohr Book Study (FS)7 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH)..... 10 p.m.

Wednesday, September 26

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—Cloud of Witnesses: Stories from
 Saints-in-Progress (Sanctuary)6:10-7:10 p.m.
 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal (Choir Room)7:15-8:15 p.m.

Thursday, September 27

Pastor Search Committee (Pastor's Study).....7 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH).....7 p.m.

Friday, September 28

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

Sunday, September 30

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.
 Tamale Sale (Commons) 12 p.m.
 Orchestra rehearsal (Sanctuary) 12:30 p.m.
 Open House for Halter Family (FH)2-6 p.m.
 Highland Book Club (103).....6 p.m.

Monday, October 1

Emma Leachman Women's Group (103)4 p.m.
 Ministry Council (200)6 p.m.

Tuesday, September 25

Tuesday Adult Bible Study (Commons) .. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Hope for a Brighter Day (FH)5:30 p.m.
 G.R.O.W. (103).....6 p.m.
 Rohr Book Study (FS)7 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH)..... 10 p.m.

Upcoming Events at Highland

- September 26 Cloud of Witnesses: Stories from Saints-in-Progress
- September 28-29 Deacons Retreat
- September 30 Halter Family Open House; Highland Book Club
- October 2 Tuesday Adult Bible Study
- October 4 Theology on Tap
- October 7 World Communion Sunday
- October 9 Tuesday Adult Bible Study
- October 11 Libation Theology
- October 13 MensWork Breakfast
- October 14 New Members Luncheon
- October 14-15 Senior Adults Retreat
- October 16 Tuesday Adult Bible Study
- October 17 Quarterly Church Conference
- October 20 Sanctuary Choir Retreat

Wednesday Night Menus

September 26

Autumn Chicken
 Baked Rice Pilaf
 Grilled Vegetable Platter
 Spinach & Apple Salad
 Yeast Rolls
 Dessert

October 3

Egg Casserole
 Bacon
 Hash Brown Casserole
 Biscuits and Gravy
 Mixed Greens w/ Citrus
 Fruit Bowl
 Dessert

Adults: \$7; Children ages 4-11: \$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.

Kathy Belcher, Cheryl Davis

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Tony Dougherty (C), Joey Eubank (G),
 Allison French, Michael French

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Steven Michael Carr, Jill Ligon Davis (C),
 Michael DeWhatley, Bill Martin (G)

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Holly Harris (C), Doris Hornbuckle (G),
 David Wells



Highland Book Club Meets This Sunday

The Highland Book Club will meet this Sunday, September 30, at 6:00 p.m., in room 103, to discuss The Excellent Lombards by Jane Hamilton. Everyone is invited!



For the Living of These Days—A Word from Perry Dixon *(continued from page 1)*

I don't think the answer to these questions is yes, but after that, it gets interesting. Between the two extremes of "prayer is futile" and "prayers are granted to those who believe," the truth of prayer is more complicated and elusive than we might have known. Here are some thoughtful reflections that have come out of a recent conversation with our youth:

- *Prayer changes us.*
- *Prayer deepens our faith.*
- *Prayer connects us with others.*
- *Prayer opens up new possibilities with God in concert with our conscience. But we must choose.*

I think our youth are right about each of these and that they get us closer to what is true about when we pray. "Life is arbitrary," Dr. Frank Tupper once told me, "but, God is not." I think he must be right, alongside our youth. But what does this mean for us when we pray?

Well, it means we believe prayer is something as mysterious as it is invaluable, and we are turning toward it as a means of supporting one another, rather than as a personal wish list. By voicing and hearing our concerns for ourselves, those we know, and the world, we bear witness to one another and carry life's ebbs and flows, together, with God. We also open ourselves to what otherwise might be impossible. So, our youth are learning the Friday Church way on Wednesday Nights: *a communal practice of what tradition calls the prayers of the people.* To vulnerably offer our prayers when we pray, together, may change us if we let God and one another in. I believe these practices are some that would benefit all of us at Highland for the living of these transition days. I am deeply thankful for youth who keep me grounded; they who are both Highland's present and future.

Around Highland...

... As we head into the Advent season, Highland's church staff is already preparing for the many traditions, rituals, and gatherings that will help us journey to the manger and beyond. We look forward to a rich season as we come together as a community to celebrate this joyous news of Christ's birth. One annual event that you will not find in our Advent calendar this year is our Christmas Banquet. We hold out hope that once out of this interim time where staff's plates are filled with additional tasks, we will be able to host the Christmas Banquet once again. We appreciate your patience and flexibility with our staff in this season of transition. Highland's orchestra will still offer a Christmas Concert. We encourage Bible study classes and others within the church to go out to dinner before the concert and then come and enjoy the beautiful music. More information about the Orchestra Christmas Concert will begin later this fall.

Highlights from Last Sunday



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

A thinking, feeling, healing community of faith

Our Mission

God's Love compels us to cultivate a safe, welcoming community of faith where all are challenged to discover, grow, and serve, as together we boldly live out the worship that is our very lives.

Our Vision

We dream of being an engaging, vibrant Christian church, where transformed people are joining the work of God, creating a world where justice and Love are abundant.

Our Values

- We value a **deeply spiritual, Christ-centered faith** that opens us to life, equips us to serve, and calls us to action.
- We value a **courageous, progressive theology** whose relevance extends from the pew to the street, that engages both the mind and the heart, and that welcomes everyone from the skeptic to the devoted.
- We value **all people**, not in spite of, but precisely because of all that makes each one unique.
- We value **being doers of the word**, living out what Jesus taught: showing hospitality to strangers, confronting injustice, giving voice to those who have been silenced.
- We value a **healthy community**, where honest relationships provide all people safety, encouragement, acceptance, and healing, and challenge us to practice gentleness, forgiveness, and continued growth.
- We value **embracing challenge and change**: naming hard things, asking questions, and leaning into tensions and ambiguity.
- We value **growing together across the lifespan**, through multi-generational and intergenerational relationships and ministries.
- We value being rooted in our **distinct and radical heritage** that compels us to breathe new life into bedrock Baptist principles.
- We value **broad and deep worship** that invites us into the mystery of a loving God.
- We value **being good stewards** of all we have been given, discerning together how best to use our financial, physical, human, and spiritual gifts to follow Jesus and carry out our mission.

Weekly Financial Report September 16, 2018 (37 weeks)

	Weekly Requirement	Receipts This Week	YTD Requirements	YTD Receipts	YTD Over/Under
Contributions	\$21,846.91	\$21,693.00	\$740,609.44	\$697,722.73	(\$42,886.71)
Other Income	\$1,103.37	\$697.50	\$40,824.45	\$42,351.21	\$1,526.76
Total	\$22,950.28	\$22,390.50	\$781,433.89	\$740,073.94	(\$41,359.95)



2015 Building Renovation Project

Contributed this week	\$112.00	Loan Balance	\$25,437.00
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