

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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Highlights Class Begin March 17

New visitors and prospective members are encouraged to join us on four Sundays for our Highlights Class! We will gather during the 9:30 Bible study hour on March 17, 24, 31, and April 14, to share an in-depth look at Highland Baptist Church so that all may be invited to participate in our congregational life, shared discipleship, and church's mission in the world. Highland's ministry staff will lead the class in conjunction with our New Members Ministry Group. To participate, please contact Deb Ackerson at deb@hbclouisville.org.

For the Living of These Days—A Word from Kathy Collier

The room was filled with comfortable chairs and short footstools covered in what appeared to be old chenille rugs. There were quilts for laps and soft light from open windows and a few lamps. Members of Highland's Prodigals Bible Study Class had just enjoyed warm soup and hot buttered bread for dinner after driving from Louisville to Loretto for a weekend retreat. We could smell Mary's apple dump cake baking in the oven as a promise of dessert after our first session of the weekend. David began by reading John O'Donohue's *On Waking*:

I give thanks for arriving
Safely in a new dawn,
For the gift of eyes
To see the world,
The gift of mind
To feel at home
In my life.
The waves of possibility
Breaking on the shore of dawn,
The harvest of the past
That awaits my hunger,
And all the furtherings
This new day will bring.

Phil is a member of the Prodigals class and I was an invited guest for the retreat. I know and love so many members of this Bible study class that meets during the 11:00 hour on Sunday mornings because the class is filled with choir members. I jumped at the chance to get away and spend time with these dear folks plus I enjoyed opportunity to talk in length with others who don't cross my path on a regular basis. Even though we were only away for 24 hours, driving the short distance to the Sisters of Loretto in Nerinx, Kentucky, took my mind away from work and a never-ending to-do list and opened my heart for time to ponder the past few months and look toward the future. My work with Highland's Music Ministry keeps me too busy on Sundays to see what is happening with all the Bible study classes and I miss those connections. Seeing the love and closeness of the members from just one of Highland's 15 adult Bible study classes was so wonderful—they share their concerns, fears, hopes, and dreams each week and hold each other in prayer until they meet again. It is a beautiful image of a healthy faith community who live out their courage to be Christ followers in today's world. Thank you, Prodigals, for inviting me to your retreat and many thanks to Vicki Runnion and David Tribble for their excellent planning and leadership. As we come to the end of our month of the *Courage to Imagine*, may we see the waves of possibility for our family of faith on the corner of Grinstead and Cherokee.



The labyrinth at Loretto is in their Cedars of Peace area and was built by David Tribble (and others) in the fall of 2018.

Report from Transition Team

We have two significant events coming soon as we move further along with the process of seeking a new pastor. First, on Sunday, March 3, we will gather in Fellowship Hall over lunch and have Dr. Bill Leonard (professor at Wake Forest School of Divinity and former Interim Pastor at Highland Baptist Church) talk with us via video feed about Highland Baptist Church's connections with organizations like Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, CBF Kentucky, the Alliance of Baptists and other national and local partners in ministry. Exploring these connections is essential in clarifying the profile of Highland Baptist Church to be shared with prospective candidates interesting in being pastor at Highland Baptist Church.

If you have specific questions related to Highland Baptist Church's connections, please send them to Bob Cunningham by Monday, February 25, so they can be shared with Dr Leonard as he prepares to talk with us.

Second, the following Sunday, March 10, during both Bible Study hours (9:30 and 11:00) we will again gather in Fellowship Hall under the leadership of our consultant, Chris Gambill, to discuss the best connections both within Highland Baptist Church and with organizations outside Highland Baptist Church in further clarifying the church profile.

Also, we are nearly finished processing the feedback from the Congregational Conversation on February 3 about our mission, vision, and values, and should have this information ready for next week's newsletter. Stay tuned!

Finally, while we are well aware it seems as if searching for a new pastor is "taking so long," we want to remind you that after these two events, we will likely have one more Congregational Conversation to explore various models of pastoral leadership. After this, the Transition Team will finalize the church profile and pastor profile which the Pastor Search Committee will use in advertising and seeking potential candidates.

As always, we appreciate your prayers and support. ~ Transition Team, Highland Baptist Church

Interim Update Corner

**Weekend Services
Seventh Sunday after
the Epiphany**

Luke 6:27-38
Jim England, Proclaimer
Anthem: *True Light*



Highland Welcomes



Mark Brown

Kroger and Amazon Shopping Can Contribute to Highland Baptist Church

Follow these easy steps to enroll so a portion of your purchase proceeds go to Highland Baptist Church automatically—at no cost to you! Last year, purchases at Kroger brought around \$900 of income to the church and AmazonSmile around \$80.

Kroger: Go to <http://krogercommunityrewards.com/> to create an account or sign in. Follow the prompts to link your Kroger Plus card to Highland using our code, 32331. Use your Kroger Plus card and Highland will receive up to \$50,000 a quarter.

Amazon: Go to AmazonSmile at <https://smile.amazon.com>. Select Highland Baptist Church (Louisville) as your charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases. Amazon will remember your selection, and every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation of .05%.

Highland's Word To Our Community

... on NPR: *...practicing faith formation for children, youth, and adults in an environment where thoughtful questions are held closely alongside loving reflection...*

... on our marquee:



Highland Book Club Meets Sunday, March 3

The Highland Book Club will meet on Sunday, March 3, at 6:00 p.m., in room 103, to discuss "Never Caught" by Erica Armstrong Dunbar. Everyone is invited!

Retired Pastor Joe Phelps Honored as Peacemaker of the Year March 7

On Thursday, March 7, our retired pastor Joe Phelps will be honored at the *Recipe for Peace* Annual Dinner and Award Celebration hosted by Interfaith Paths to Peace at The Olmstead at 6:30 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <https://paths2peace.org/recipe-for-peace-gala>.

Around Highland...

... For the second year our Anti-Racism Team has adorned our lobby with posters honoring key individuals and places for Black History Month. Pictures and stories highlight some of the people and places that have had a significant impact on the history of our nation.

Please Note:

Articles for the weekly newsletter should be submitted to Andria no later than Monday mornings.

Family Service Project, March 18

On Monday evening, March 18, Highland's families with children will collaborate with our Emma Leachman Women's Mission Circle for an intergenerational family service project. Save the date for this hour-long gathering to make a tangible difference in our world. RSVP to reneec@hbclouisville.org if you plan to attend! More details coming soon!

Children's Corner

Important Dates to Remember

March 18	Family Service Project	June 24-27	PASSPORT <i>kids!</i>
April 14	Easter Festival	July 19-21	Vacation Bible School Camp
May 19	Children's Spring Music Program		



On Saturday evening, families with children gathered for a meal, playing board games, a movie and snacks!

After a successful HBC Got Skillz, our youth look forward to leading Highland in all three worship services on Sunday, March 3. Our youth will breathe life into the *Courage to Imagine* by the sharing of their own gifts and reflection on Jesus' Transfiguration. As always, there is much going on amidst our youth community—it is a gift any time we can share the joy we have found, together, with all in our congregation.

Youth Corner

Mark Your Calendar!

This Wednesday, February 13

Youth Gathering, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Youth Suite

This Sunday, February 17

Bible Study, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Youth Suite; MS Girls Group; HS Girls Group

Dr. Dalen Jackson Profiles Saints in our Windows, Clarence Jordan

Cloud of Witnesses: Profiles in Courage (6:10-7:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall): Highland's faith community is deeply shaped by the cloud of witnesses—both those in the pews and those in our beloved stained glass windows. This February, you are invited to hear more about the saints in our windows. Tomorrow, February 20, we will hear from Dr. Dalen Jackson about Clarence Jordan with some attention to Henlee Barnette.

Dalen Jackson is Academic Dean and Professor of Biblical Studies at Baptist Seminary of Kentucky. He has been with BSK since its founding in 2002. He is a native of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and a graduate of Samford University (B.A.) and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div., Ph.D.). He and his wife, Shari, live in Lexington, and have two grown children, Daniel and Emma, and a son-in-law, Clark. Dalen and Shari were members of Highland during the mid-1980's, when Dalen was a seminary student and Shari worked for Dolfinger's.

February 27: 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. Storytelling by these "Saints-in-Process" makes God visible for the church. Join us next Wednesday, February 27, for another Cloud of Witness evening as Bob Cunningham facilitates a conversation with Libby Cunningham, Walter McWhorter, and Gerald Swim, as they share their faith journey.

Women's Retreat: Music for the Journey

2019 Theme: The journey to the cross, which begins March 6 with Ash Wednesday, is a long and winding road. The journey will include twists and turns as we await the Mary's surprise discovery in the garden on Easter morning. As we enter this Lenten season, we will gather at Loretto to consider the ways that music might change the way we move through this Lenten season. Join us March 8-9 as Diane Brewer, Kathy Collier, Libby Cunningham, and Vicki Rynnion lead us in our weekend sessions. This year's Women's Retreat will be March 8-9 at Loretto. The retreat will cost \$60. To register for the Women's Retreat, email Carol at Carol@HBCLouisville.org. Deadline to register is this Sunday, February 24. **There are only a few spots left. Please contact Carol now if you would like to attend.**





**This Week
at Highland**

Tuesday, February 19

Cream of the Crop Trip (Off-site)..... 10:15 a.m.
 Hope for a Brighter Day (FH) 5:30 p.m.
 Congregational Engagement MG (Youth Suite) . 6:30 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 10 p.m.

Wednesday, February 20

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—Cloud of Witnesses:
 Profiles in Courage (FH)6:10-7:15 p.m.
 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal (Choir Room)7:15-8:15 p.m.

Thursday, February 21

Senior Adult MG (103)..... 2 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (Sanctuary) 7 p.m.
 Prayer Shawl Ministry (Off-site)..... 7 p.m.
 Environmental Action MT (103) 7 p.m.

Friday, February 22

Men's Fellowship Gathering (FS) 8 a.m.
 Friday Church (Sanctuary)7-7:45 p.m.
 Friday Church MG (Commons) 8 p.m.
 Narcotics Anonymous (FH) 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 24

Worship8:30 a.m.
 Worship9:30 a.m.
 Bible Study9:30 a.m.
 Worship 11 a.m.
 Bible Study 11 a.m.

Monday, February 25

HBC Bookends (103) 2 p.m.
 Immigration MT (Commons) 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 26

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

Upcoming Events at Highland

March 3	Youth-Led Worship
March 6	Ash Wednesday Service
March 7	Theology on Tap
March 8-9	Annual Women's Retreat
March 10	Congregational Conversation
March 11	Joint WMU meeting
March 14	Table Talk
March 29	Friday Church Fifth Friday Fellowship Supper
April 3	No Evening Activities/Supper
April 7	Congregational Conversation
April 11	Table Talk
April 14	Palm Sunday; Easter Festival
April 18	Maundy Thursday Service
April 19	Tenebrae Service
April 21	Easter Sunday
May 18	Annual Jean Janes Yard Sale

Wednesday Night Menus

February 20	February 27
Egg Casserole	Chicken and Artichokes
Bacon	Orzo Pasta
Hash Brown Casserole	Roasted Brussels Sprouts
Biscuits and Gravy	Oriental Salad/Green
Mixed Greens w/ Citrus	Salad
Fruit Bowl	Rolls
Dessert	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.

John Pacyga, Becky Smith (C)

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Tony Dougherty (G), Michael French, John Foster, Gene Streible (C)

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Steven Michael Carr, Libby Cunningham, Sally Evans (C), Bill Martin (G)

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Guthrie Graves-Fitzsimmons (G), Jeff Grey, Holly Harris, Lewis Miller (C)

Help Needed for the La Casita Soup Kitchen

Highland Baptist Church is partnering with the La Casita Center in a ministry of accompaniment to Louisville's Latinx immigrant and refugee community. Beginning next Tuesday, February 26, the Immigration Team is providing two pots of soups for the La Casita Center's soup kitchen/amuerzo comunitario the fourth Tuesday of each month. You are invited to participate in this ministry by helping make a pot of soup. To share the blessing of this ministry, we are inviting our Sunday bible study classes, social groups, families and individuals to volunteer. Sign-up sheets will be in the Commons on Sundays and on Wednesday nights. You may also contact the Immigration team co-leaders Jane Parker or Michael French for more information and to pick a month to volunteer.



<https://hblouisville.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/La-Casita-Soup-Flyer-PDF.pdf>

Free Showing of 13th and Panel Discussion This Sunday

The Anti-Racism Team invites you to a free showing of *13th*, an award-winning documentary about race, justice, and mass incarceration by director Ava DuVernay. Hosted by the Main Library in collaboration with the University of Louisville Health Sciences Center Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the film will be shown this Sunday, February 24, 2:00 p.m., at the Main Library and followed by a panel discussion. Reserve your free spot by calling (502) 574-1603.

2019 World Justice Day Event

Join with Sowers of Justice, tonight, February 19, 6:00-8:00 p.m., at Crescent Hill Baptist Church, to network with those doing the work of food justice in Louisville. Enjoy light refreshments, great conversation, and meet new friends in Justice work as we create new opportunities in food justice together. Access to healthy food is a human right! Learn about the 2019 Sowing a Nonviolent City fall conference (October 5) on Food Justice and how you can help.

Finance Corner—January 2019 Recap

We heard from some of the congregation that our first Finance Ministry Group (FMG) monthly article was successful and we plan to continue. You recall that we decided that rather than a small, weekly square box of numbers detailing budgets and actual dollars, we decided to recap the previous month in paragraph form, share some upcoming unusual expenses, and provide some other nuggets for your thinking.

2019 Dreaming (aka The Budget) and The Bottom Line (aka The Actuals)

We have started 2019 off on a solid footing. Total income for the month exceeded what we had hoped for by almost \$3,000, while expenses were less than what we expected to pay out by almost \$9,000. Combining the two puts us **almost \$12,000 ahead**. That is really good news, but we cannot forget that some of the things we have been unable to do being short-staffed, which is reflected in the lower expenses, might need/want to be done later this year. So, we appreciate everyone's emphasis on maintaining their giving habits.

Other Things to Celebrate

We told you in January's article that we were about to pay off the bank loan which we used to renovate primarily the children's suite area on the second floor—**6 years early**. Now let us tell you what that means in real dollars. We saved slightly more than **\$50,000** in interest by paying it off early. **Wow!** Those are real dollars that Highland Baptist Church can use to further the work of Christ. So, join us as we celebrate, and thanks be to God.

Upcoming, Non-traditional Expenses

In the January article, we reminded ourselves that we worship in a beautiful, old building and surrounding space that is well over 100 years old. We cringe when we think about the roof leaking, HVAC systems and our marvelous sanctuary organ growing older. As we stated, the most pressing need is resurfacing the parking spaces this Spring. The lowest estimate we received was **\$53,000**. We now have to move forward with getting official bids and locking those prices and scheduling down. FMG is considering where those funds can come from and while we have some money set aside in restricted funds, the remaining funds needed for the project will need to be secured from other sources or areas of the budget. We will then need to replenish these building funds for additional projects.

Another blessing which will come to full fruit in 2019 is the Campbell Memorial Garden. Many will remember that John Pacyga and others drafted plans several years ago for landscaping, remembrance benches, and a place to scatter ashes. At that time, we elected to hold off on the wonderful vision but now the time is right to complete the vision. There is approximately **\$21,000** in restricted funds which were given toward this vision and we are certain that you will hear and see more in the coming months.

Final words from FMG

FMG gives thanks that you believe in begin doers of the word and not hearers only. And that it is through your faithful giving we can continue as doers.



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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.