

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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MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Vote for Congregational Representatives This Weekend

Thank you for all of the nominations you submitted for Ministry Council congregational representatives! The names of those who have been asked and agreed to serve on Ministry Council beginning in February are Debbie Lemmon and Beth Metcalf. The church will vote by ballot in all services this weekend.



Pastor Search Committee Leads Congregational Conversation This Sunday

The Pastor Search Committee invites the congregation to attend a Congregational Conversation during one of our two Bible study hours (9:30 or 11:00 a.m.) in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 26. The purpose of the time together will be to discuss the events and schedule of how the candidate for Highland's next pastor will be presented and voted on during a call weekend. We recognize that many people may not have grown up Baptist or may not have experienced a call weekend since Highland had its last call weekend for a pastor nearly 23 years ago. All are encouraged to attend so that the congregation can be ready for a call weekend sometime later this spring (date yet to be announced).

For the Living of These Days—A Word from Carol Harston

One of the greatest gifts I have received over this interim has been the relationship I have developed with Debbie, a neighbor who regularly visits the office. Once Joe and Nina left, I became one of her frequent conversationalists. I've even wondered if she should be on our Personnel Ministry Group, if for the fact that she's not a member or attender of the church. Through daily visits and phone calls, Debbie keeps tabs on all of us as office staff. Just now, on the phone with me, she asked if Perry has recovered from his cold. Last Monday, she shared how worried she was about us all as we gathered in the torrential rain that past Saturday for Michael French's funeral. From the weather to her worries, we cover it all. Our conversations have become one of the highlights of my work each week at Highland.

As the office is beginning to prepare for the end of the interim, Debbie is starting to notice. As we just wrapped up our conversation, she asked again: "With this new pastor coming, are you going to stay or are you moving to Hawaii?" I always assure her that I'm not going anywhere; that if I move to Hawaii, I'll take her with me and we'll love the sunshine.

Talking with Walter last week, she ended her conversation with the simple question: "What will the new pastor coming mean for me? For Debbie? Will things change or be different?" Walter emailed me to share about Debbie's questions, writing, "How articulate and insightful of Debbie to ask the questions out loud that we're all asking here at Highland Baptist Church, if we're honest with ourselves."

I hope you will join us for our Congregational Conversation this Sunday during the Bible study hours at 9:30 and 11:00 so that you will hear some of the details about the process of a "call weekend." This time together will help us imagine how Highland will move through this process of calling a new pastor. But Debbie's question is not one for the Pastor Search to answer. It is a question for each of us to ask of ourselves and of God as we enter into a year of change.

What will a new pastor coming mean for me? How will this new beginning affect our church, our city, and our lives?

Only God knows. And I don't mean that flippantly. Just this weekend, we read together from the first chapter of I Corinthians: "God is faithful." New beginnings call us forth into the unknown where we must walk in faith, trusting in our faithful God whose love will carry us safely into the next season of our life together. No matter the road, we walk it confidently for we walk it together.



HBC Got Skillz, Sunday, February 23

The Youth Community invites all of Highland to join together for HBC Got Skillz, a favorite annual gathering for the congregation. HBC Got Skillz is a chili dinner and variety show filled with acts of all ages and of various talents from our church. This year, we hope to emphasize the gift of a church wide gathering and are making a few slight adjustments. As always, funds raised by Got Skillz go directly toward scholarships and sustainability for our continuing relationships with Passport and Touching Miami with Love. But, this year, money will be raised through ticket sales and the opportunity to sponsor a table at the show for Bible study classes or organizations. Awards will be decided by a panel of judges (instead of votes being cast with money as in years past). Chili and desserts will be provided by resident experts, so planning to attend and enjoy the show is all we invite you to do! Dinner begins at 5:00 p.m. and the show begins at 6:00. Sign-ups for acts and ticket sales will be after Sunday's worship services in the Commons. We hope you will consider joining us for Got Skillz this year!

Highland Book Club Meets This Sunday

The Highland Book Club will meet this Sunday, January 26, at 6:00 p.m., in room 103, to discuss *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone* by Lori Gottlieb. Everyone is invited!

Weekend Services

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm 27
Matthew 4:12-23

Perry Dixon, Proclaimer

Anthem:
Light of the World

Church Administrator



Personnel Ministry Group is happy to share with you that Walter McWhorter's job title has changed from "Operations Director" to "Church Administrator" as part

of his staff review at the end of 2019. The change in title better reflects the responsibilities and duties that Walter already fulfills inside of Highland. He still performs the "operations" tasks such as coordination of event setup, maintaining the buildings and grounds, and working with outside vendors with property and space needs. In addition to these tasks, Walter has several key administrative tasks: supervision of our support staff, participation in the weekly Ministry Staff meetings, oversight of all of our technology needs, management of several budget areas, and even co-signer of checks. The title change does not reflect any change in the Personnel Budget or in responsibilities within the office.

Walter is an integral part of our office staff, serving as an essential link between the congregation and the office, between the building and its use, and between the support staff and ministry staff. We give thanks for the many ways that Walter's work, now as "Church Administrator," actively supports the core values of the church, our vision, and the diverse ministries of our faith community.

Highland's Word To Our Community

... on NPR: *...a church that offers faith formation for children, youth, and adults in an environment that welcomes honest questioning amid a progressive theology.*
... on our marquee:



**An Intergenerational Game Day:
Families with Children and Senior Adults**

Children's Corner

Join us this Saturday morning, January 25, as we gather for an intergenerational morning of board games, followed by lunch together and dessert decorating! Hosted by the Families with Children Ministry Group and the Senior Adult Ministry Group together, this morning gathering is appropriate for all ages. We'll even have some toys for infants and toddlers, while parents and older siblings play games. RSVP to renee@hbclouisville.org by today, January 22.

**Coffee in the Children's Commons and Card Making Station
for Children's Teacher Appreciation Month**

Join us for coffee in the children's commons between services this Sunday morning, January 26, and get to know other Highland families with children. And while you enjoy the coffee, your child(ren) is invited to create thank you cards for Bible study teacher appreciation month with the materials available. Just place them in the basket, and the Families with Children Ministry Group will ensure they are delivered.

Important Dates to Remember

- January 25 Intergenerational Gathering: Families with Children and Senior Adults
- January 26 Coffee in the Children's Commons
- February Children's Teacher Appreciation Month
- February 23 Children's Sabbath
- June 23-26 PASSPORTkids!
- July 10-12 Vacation Bible School Camp

February Wednesday Nights

Cloud of Witnesses on February 5

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 on February 5, 6:10-7:15 p.m., for another Cloud of Witnesses evening as Bob Cunningham facilitates a conversation with Troy Burden, Kathey Golightly Sanders, and Anita Roper as they share their faith journey.



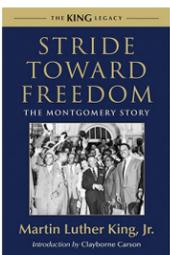
Life and Theology of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on February 12 and 19

Dr. Lewis Brogdon returns to us on Wednesday nights, February 12 and 19, at 6:10 p.m., in Fellowship Hall to help us learn more about Dr. King as not just a "dreamer" but as a major Christian theologian. So much of our common knowledge about King ignores the historical context which gave meaning to his poetic and prophetic voice. In preparation of this class, we encourage you to read this season's Highland Reads book, Stride Towards Freedom: The Montgomery Story, so that you can read King's own words.

Ash Wednesday Service on February 26

We will begin our Lenten journey on Wednesday, February 26, in a worship service in the Sanctuary at 6:15 p.m. with our Ash Wednesday service. This is a service of penitence and humbleness, giving us time to reflect on our own mortality and let go or all our ways that are harmful and not Christ-centered.

Highland Reads: Freedom in Compassion



We can't always gather in the same room to explore ideas, but we can grow by exploring books in common this year. During each season of our Year of Freedom, we are recommending a book for adults that can help spark conversation and ignite curiosity.

For this season (Freedom in Compassion), adults are invited to read Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Stride Towards Freedom: The Montgomery Story. Travel back to 1958 to hear King's account of the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the principles of nonviolence that led the movement. His words are poignant today as our country considers how to fight for freedom through love. We will have some copies available in the Commons. To purchase online, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yhbefsxo>.

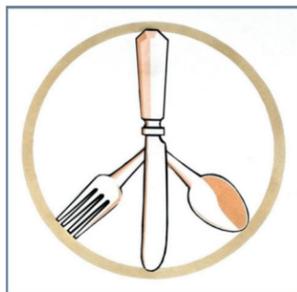
"Feed the Peace"

-a dinner that celebrates the idea and reality
of peace and hope for the New Year

Friday
Church
Corner

Everyone
Welcome!

Great Time
for Fellowship!



Friday Church
Band!

- When:** Friday, January 31, 2020. We will begin serving dinner at 6:30 p.m.
- Where:** Highland Baptist Church, 1101 Cherokee Road, Louisville, KY
- What:** We will serve comfort foods, sing along to great music and hear an inspirational message!

Help Needed: We need side dishes and desserts. Our main course will be meatloaf, fried chicken, and vegetarian lasagna. If you can help, please contact Debbie Lemmon. If you are unable to attend but would like to help with food, please leave food in the kitchen labeled "Friday Church".



**This Week
at Highland**

Wednesday, January 22

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—The Church and Reparations
 (FH).....6:10-7:15 p.m.
 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal (Choir Room)
7:15-8:15 p.m.

Thursday, January 23

Alcoholics Anonymous (FH)..... 7 p.m.
 Immigration MT (Commons)6:30 p.m.

Friday, January 24

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.

Saturday, January 25

Mission and Justice MG Retreat (Youth
 Commons)9 a.m.-12 p.m.
 Families with Children and Senior Adults
 Intergenerational Game Day (FH)..... 10:30 a.m.
 Young Adult MG Retreat (Off-site).....1-3 p.m.

Sunday, January 26

Worship 8:30 a.m.
 Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Congregational Conversation (FH)..... 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 11 a.m.
 Congregational Conversation (FH)..... 11 a.m.
 Adult Handbell rehearsal (200).....2-3 p.m.
 Highland Book Club (103)..... 6 p.m.

Monday, January 27

HBC Bookends (103).....2 p.m.

Tuesday, January 28

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

Upcoming Events at Highland

January 24 Vote on Congregational Representatives
 for Ministry Council
 January 25 Mission and Justice Ministry Group
 Retreat; Young Adult Ministry Group
 Retreat; Families with Children and
 Senior Adults Game Day
 January 26 Vote on Congregational Representatives
 for Ministry Council; Congregational
 Conversation during Bible study hours;
 Highland Book Club
 January 31 Friday Church Fifth Friday Fellowship
 Supper

Wednesday Night Menus

January 22	January 29
Chicken Piccata	Roasted Pork Tenderloin
Wild Rice	Green Beans
Grilled Vegetable Platter	Scalloped Potatoes
Caesar Salad	Spinach & Apple Salad
French Bread	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.
 Jeff Grey (C), Becky Smith (C)
Sunday, 8:30 a.m.
 Larry Davis (G), Doris Hornbuckle,
 Nathan Marrs, Allison Todd (C)
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
 Diane Brewer, Autumn Reece (G),
 Missy Smith, Allison Todd (C)
Sunday, 11:00 a.m.
 Cheryl Davis (C), Becky Hines (G),
 Alison Schureck, Ginny Sims

Cream of the Crop Gathering This Saturday

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 this Saturday, January 25, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., for intergenerational games, lunch and dessert decorating with Highland's families with children. RSVP to JoAnne Taheri.

Young Adult Ministry Group Retreat This Saturday

This is a reminder for members of the Young Adult Ministry Group that we will gather from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. this Saturday, January 25, at the home of Rebecca Street Smith. If you have any questions, contact Rebecca or Lauren Jones Mayfield, especially if you would like to add items to our agenda.

Young Adult Corner

Mission and Justice Ministry Group Retreat This Saturday

Calling all mission team leaders and non-team leads! Please join us this Saturday, January 25, in the Youth Commons. We will gather for donuts and coffee at 8:45 a.m., and work from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. If you have any questions or have not yet received a copy of Sacred Resistance, please connect with Erin Phelps or Lauren Jones Mayfield at laurenjm@hbcloouisville.org.

Anti-Racism Team

The Anti-Racism Team invites you to join us in reading So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo. This reading will give us a shared language and foundation as we head into our second half of the discussion with Dr. Brogdon tonight, January 22, and our conversation next Wednesday, January 29. Please know that reading this book is not required to join us in these important conversations. The book is available at Carmichael's at a 20% discount if you mention you are reading with Highland Baptist Church and the Anti-Racism Team.

La Casita Soup Ministry

As we at Highland Baptist continue our commitment to La Casita Center soup ministry into the new year, we have many opportunities for you and your group to participate. On the fourth Tuesday of each month, we provide three pots of soup to the center. We have already had some people sign up for the new year, but we continue to have spots open every month. We need one pot in January and two pots each of the following months. For groups who may need them, there are three soup pots in the church kitchen that are labeled (thanks to Michael French, one of our most energetic cheerleaders). The kitchen is reserved for the Immigration Ministry Team for soup-making should you group choose to make it together. Whether the soup is made at church or you bring it in, if it is left in the refrigerator by Monday night, it will be delivered to La Casita Center by 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday morning. If you have questions, or to sign up to make soup, contact Jane Parker. Jane will also be in the Commons on Sunday following the 8:30 and 9:30 services. Thank you for participating in this ministry.

Donations Needed

Travel size toiletries are collected throughout the year to be given to those seeking assistance at Highlands Community Ministries. You can drop off these items in the basket outside the choir room at any time. Especially needed are shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, and toothbrushes.

Missions Corner



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.