



**October 27, 2020**

## **Highland's Response to Governor Beshear's Recommendations**

Yesterday, Governor Beshear made a number of recommendations as Kentucky continues to experience a spike in COVID-19 infections. For counties that are in the red zone, which includes Jefferson County, he recommends that people work virtually if possible and that we suspend group gatherings of any size. In support of the Governor's efforts and out of deep love for our surrounding community, we as a church family want to follow the Governor's recommendations, which will include the following:

- Starting tomorrow, Wednesday, October 28, we will be closing the Highland Baptist Church office. Staff will continue working from home and will be available to you by phone, email, or Zoom.
- Unfortunately, Mary Alice will not be able to meet with you in-person if you are scheduled for a meeting with her in the coming week. Andria will be following up with you to see if you would like to meet with Mary Alice by Zoom or to reschedule for a later date.
- Walter and Kathleen will continue to check the mail in the church office regularly if you need to mail a check or pledge card.
- We will continue livestreaming Friday Church and Sunday worship from the sanctuary with a more limited number of people participating.

As of right now, the office will be closed through at least next Friday, November 6. However, we will continue to evaluate all of the above plans on a week-by-week basis.

We will get through this, Highland family! In the meantime, let's continue to care for one another and for our community in all the ways we know how. May we continue to discover what it means to lean into the worship that is our very lives *outside* of this sacred space at Grinstead and Cherokee.

## **All Saints' Day This Sunday**

Highland's church family will celebrate All Saints' Day this Sunday, November 1. In our



morning live stream worship service, we will pause and remember those in our church family who died in the past year: Jane Allison, Michael French, Dave Nakdimen, Divina Park, Frank Tupper, and Jim Ward. We give thanks for their lives as well as God's unending goodness.

A Handbell Ensemble will ring a setting of the hymn, *For All the Saints*, to open worship. During this season where we stay healthy at home, we invite all to lift your voices in the opening hymn:

*For all the saints, who from their labors rest,  
who Thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia!*

Please join us in worship this Sunday as we remember those who will always belong to Highland's faith community.

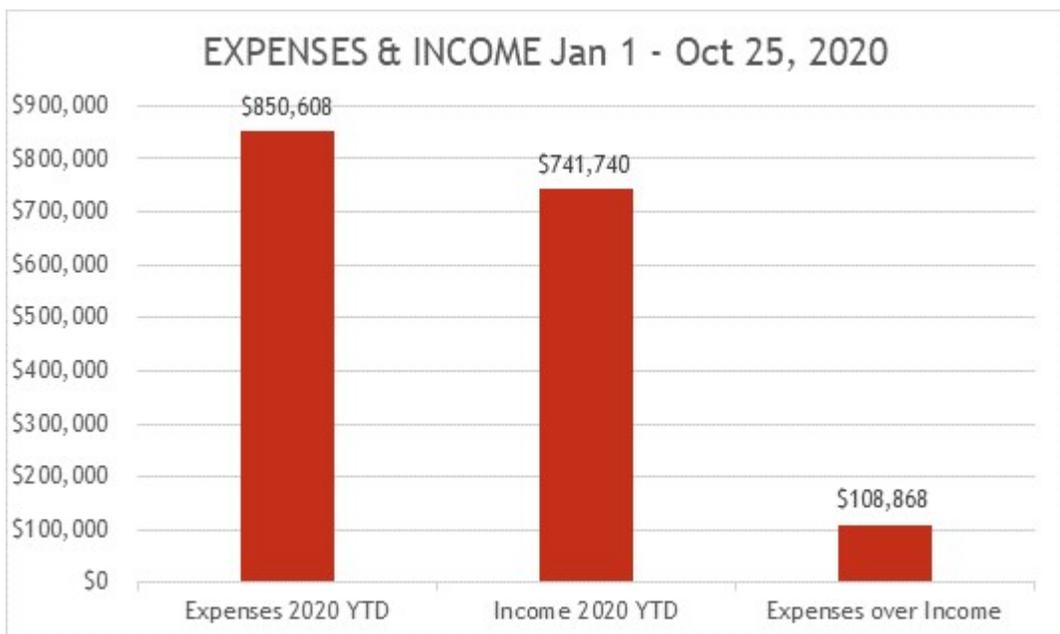
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## Grateful for 165 Pledges Received to Date

As of Tuesday morning, we have received 165 pledges totaling \$714,060. Thank you to everyone who has answered the call!

In this time of uncertainty, the Faithful Giving Ministry Group along with Finance Ministry Group celebrate your commitment to the work and ministry of our faith community through your giving.

If you have not yet turned in your pledge, it is not too late to do so. You can mail your pledge to the church; call the church office and speak with Kathleen Gordon, the financial secretary; or make your pledge online by using the button below. Again, thank you so much to all who have made your 2021 pledge.



I'm ready to make my pledge online!

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## Called Business Meeting to Discuss 2021 Budget November 8

On Sunday, November 8, there will be a called business meeting on Zoom at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the 2021 budget. The budget will be emailed to the church to review prior to this meeting. Please make plans to attend as we work together to discern important ways to move forward with our budget in the coming year.



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## Weekend Services All Saints Sunday

The names of members who have passed away in the past year will be read and honored.

Psalm 34  
Revelation 7:15-17  
1 John 3:1-3  
Matthew 5:1-12

Mary Alice Birdwhistell, Proclaimer



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### Please Note:

All in-person services, activities, meetings and events at Highland Baptist Church are cancelled until further notice.

## Staying Connected Outside These Walls

As we live through these days where we are rarely, if ever, physically connected with each other we make use of technology to bridge some of the gaps that exist between us. Below are some of the ways that you may use to stay connected to the community of Highland Baptist Church:

**Worship from the sanctuary on our Facebook page** at 7:00 p.m. on Friday nights and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. These streams also appears on our YouTube page.

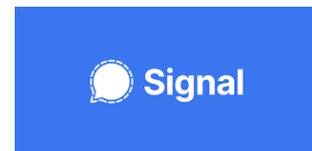
**Bible study via Zoom.** Several adult Bible study classes are gathering weekly via Zoom which allows connectivity via computer or phone. If your Bible study class would like to begin meeting this way, email Carol at [carol@hbclouisville.org](mailto:carol@hbclouisville.org) or Walter at [walter@hbclouisville.org](mailto:walter@hbclouisville.org).

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## *Mission Corner*

### **Highland Baptist on Signal**

Signal is a phone app that enables security encoded texting. Don't know what that means? Essentially it is a fancy way of saying that all messages are secure and private. Signal is a 501c3, so there are not any advertisements or trackers used within the app.



We are going to experiment with Highland members on signal in a group text format. Would you like to be included? It is as simple as this:

- Download the Signal app.
- Create a free account using your existing cell phone number.
- Then text Lauren on signal or email her that you would like to be added to the church group.

This will be a way for us to communicate about jail support needs, protests and marches to which we are invited, and the like. Missy Smith, Ryan Eller, Lauren, and members of the anti-racism team will be the primary chat leaders, and this will enable us to respond quickly about unfolding needs in our city.

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## *Church Business Corner*

### **Update on the Life of Highland**

Earlier this year, the Finance Ministry Group, in consultation with Highland's staff and Ministry Council, applied for and received funds from the Paycheck Protection Program. The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) is a loan program developed as a response to COVID-19 designed to provide direct support for small businesses (including non-profits and churches) to keep their workers on the payroll. The Small Business Administration will forgive loans if all employee retention criteria are met and the funds are used for eligible expenses.

In last week's Quarterly Church Conference, a motion was made for Highland to return the funds we received from the Payroll Protection Plan earlier this year. There was considerable conversation and different opinions were expressed. However, the motion was ultimately tabled so that we can take more time to gather information regarding questions that were asked and to share more information with the congregation to allow everyone to make a more informed vote. We are currently working on compiling

information regarding the PPP funds, the process Highland followed to apply for them, the concerns that have been raised, how those concerns have been addressed thus far, and the potential implications of returning the funds. You will receive this information by email by the end of this week or the beginning of next week.

On Sunday, November 8, at 5:00 p.m., we will have a called business meeting. The original purpose of this meeting was to present and discuss the 2021 budget, and this will be the first item on the agenda. Following that discussion, there will be a set time for pro and con statements followed by a vote on the motion that has been made concerning the PPP funds Highland received. Following the vote, Mary Alice will offer a word of prayer.

If you have further questions regarding the PPP funds, please send them to Mary Alice so that we can work to have answers to you in the upcoming email and/or in the business meeting on November 8.



## Faithful Giving Moment

We continue to be grateful for the in-person community that we have cultivated week in and week out for so long so that in times like these, the good work of the church can continue. And it does continue! In this moment, where finances are not our primary concern, but they do remain in the back of all of our minds, we ask you to practice generosity by giving faithfully.

There are four ways to give right now:

1. The easiest way to give is online via the church's secure webpage by using the button below. Please be sure to click on "Highland's General Operating Fund." You can give a recurring gift this way, as well as a one-time gift.
2. The most cost-conscious way is to set up an automatic bill payment with your bank. This will send your gift to the church automatically in these stressful days, and best of all, no fees—which allows us to be a better steward of your gifts when all seems uncertain.
3. You may mail your check to the church office at 1101 Cherokee Road, Louisville, KY 40204, Attn: Kathleen Gordon.
4. It is still okay to drop off a check or cash at the church office. Ring the bell by the Educational Doors between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and someone will come to the door to receive it.

Thank you always for your faithful gifts, especially in these days!

[Click here to give online!](#)