

Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
1101 Cherokee Road
Louisville, KY 40204



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

A thinking, feeling, healing community of faith

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**HIGHLAND BAPTIST MUSIC MINISTRY
HANDBELL & ORCHESTRA SPRING CONCERT**
Tonight, May 24 ■ 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. Please contact the church office for a dinner reservation.

Vision 20/20 Team Shares Proposed Mission, Vision, Values (MVV)

On Sunday, the Vision 2020 team shared the proposed draft of the Mission, Vision, and Values for Highland. The draft is the result of a year-long process that has included over 40 listening sessions involving more than 350 Highlanders. The 1,300 comments from these sessions were analyzed into themes (<https://hbclouisville.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Vision-2020-All-Comments-Deidentified.pdf>). The writing process involved a retreat with staff and deacon chair and vice chair. Since then, the team has been involved in hours of discernment, drafting, and revision. We've sought additional feedback from staff as well as convened a focus group of Highlanders. The draft presented is a product of that work and can be found at the link below. Before reading the draft, we ask you to please read the "Points to Consider" document, as it will help you understand how the MVV document works.

Points to Consider: https://hbclouisville.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Vision-20_20-Points-to-Consider.pdf

Mission, Vision, and Values: https://hbclouisville.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Vision-20_20-Mission-Vision-Values.pdf

Vision 20/20 Thank You and Next Steps

The Vision 20/20 Team would like to express our deep gratitude for the support and participation of the congregation throughout this process. We appreciate your active involvement in our presentation on Sunday. It was a wonderful to hear all the conversation surrounding the MVV document.

On Sunday, we asked you all to consider whether the proposed draft of the Mission, Vision, and Values was in "the strike zone" or not. Remember, we are *pitching* these to you so a strike is good. We are excited to report that approximately 95% of you reported that this draft was a strike.

The team has met and discussed these results. Given the high rate of approval, we feel good about moving forward with a vote on Sunday June 4. This will be a ballot vote during all services.

In next week's newsletter, we will respond to the questions we have received. These were good, thoughtful questions, many of which we've wrestled with extensively as a team. If you have additional questions about the process or product, please feel free to contact a member of the Vision 20/20 team: Kathy Belcher, Ryan Davis, Allison Keenan, Bruce Maples, Nina Maples, Kim Waters, and Fran White.

Church Picnic at Hogan's Fountain, June 7

Come join the fun and fellowship at the church-wide picnic on Wednesday, June 7, 5:00-9:00 p.m., at Hogan's Fountain in Cherokee Park. We will grill hot dogs and hamburgers, and start serving food at 6:00. Cost is the same as Wednesday night meals: \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for kids ages 4-8, and \$15 max per household. We will start taking reservations this Sunday, May 27, after all services and on Wednesday evening, May 24. Bring a lawn chair and join the fun!



Highlights from Children's Choir Concert Service



**Weekend Services
Ascension Sunday**

Luke 24:44-53
Acts 1:5, 8

You Are Witnesses of These Things
Joe Phelps, Proclaimer

Anthem: *Clap Your Hands* Psalm 47

Please Note:
The church offices will be closed this Monday, May 29, in observance of Memorial Day.

Thinking Together...

Twenty years ago, Highland hired Nina Maples as a very part-time employee to do some "outreach." Almost immediately, as we recognized Nina's many talents, we put more and more hats on her—children's minister, adult education, pastoral care, senior associate pastor.

Through the years, Nina has been my colleague, confidant, and cohort. She has steadied the Highland ship time and again when things got rocky because "someone" was out stirring the waters.

Nina initiated many programs we now consider standard Highland—from our G.R.O.W. outreach ministry to use of office volunteers, to Christmas banquets, to how Ridgewood is organized, to the work and spirit of our deacon ministry. What Nina birthed affects Highland's life every single day.

Last year, Nina intuited that the time was right to set our course for the future. Having made our way in recent years through at least four major milestones—a capital campaign, addition of a third Sunday service and second Bible study hour, a change to our membership policy, and the move toward full inclusion of LGBT members—it was time to articulate who we are as Highland today and where we go from here under God.

Thus *Vision 20/20* was born—first in Nina's mind, then the staff and leaders, and finally with the entire congregation.

Nina used her continuing education resources to train in Appreciative Inquiry—the method which shaped our process. She led the task force (an amazing array of talents and personalities!) and herded these cats through the complex terrain of eliciting and interpreting the congregation's responses.

(continued to page 2)

Highland's Word To Our Community

... on NPR: ... *dedicated to standing with all who grieve life's broken places* ...
... on our marquee:



Highlights Classes Offered Sunday, June 11

If you are a new or prospective member, you will want to attend the upcoming Highlights class on Sunday, June 11, from 3:00 until 6:00 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. This class is part of the process for becoming a member of Highland, and is offered several times a year. Joe Phelps and Nina Maples will lead this class which offers an in-depth look at topics such as how our church is structured, how to join, and how to be involved in ministry at Highland. There will be a light dinner served, and childcare is provided with a **reservation**. For more information or to make a childcare reservation, please contact Nina at nina@hbclouisville.org.

Annual Kentuckiana Pride Sign-ups for June 16-17

It's that time of year again to show our support for our LGBTQ siblings by walking in the Kentuckiana Pride Parade and volunteering at our very own Highland Baptist Church booth at the Kentuckiana Pride Festival. *The parade takes place **Friday, June 16, at 7:00 p.m.***

Last year, we had over 100 people walk in the parade, many for the first time. Those that participated can tell you that it's quite a moving experience. For a group that has sustained many wounds from the church, seeing Baptists in the parade is a balm for many of our LGBTQ siblings. Come be part of this healing journey.

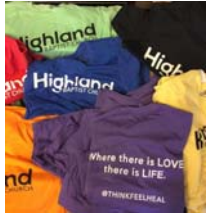
We also need volunteers to sit at our church booth at the festival to hand out HBC swag and operate our button maker. The booth runs smoothly with four people volunteering at a time. The schedule has been set up in two-hour shifts, starting at noon and going until 8:00 p.m. See you there—and wear your new Highland t-shirt!

Sign-ups for both the Parade and the Festival will be in the Commons between church services each Sunday through June 11.

T-Shirts

Pick them up in the commons! Pick out a new color or size! Pick out one for purchase if you haven't already!

For only \$10 you can have a lovely colored, super-cottony-soft summer shirt! Then wear it to the picnic on June 7 and PRIDE Parade on June 16!



Please Note:

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

Have you checked out our website lately?

Visit <https://hbclouisville.org> and catch a glimpse into our virtual front door.

Thinking Together... (continued from page 1)

The resulting Mission, Vision, and Values are a creative mashing of our collective words, dreams, concerns, and convictions garnered from many listening sessions.

We are pleased to report from Sunday's presentation that the proposed Mission/ Values/ Vision "hit the strike zone" with 95% of us! It is a fine document which will shape our ministries and clarify our calling— but only when we utilize it to inform our work together, and we *will* utilize it!

Thank you, Nina. And, thank you Vision 20/20 team: Ryan Davis, Kim Waters, Kathy Belcher, Fran White, Bruce Maples, Allison Keenan, and others who were part of earlier phases of the work: Kelly Young, Marc Dowell and Mark Stewart. Your vision for this work has clarified Highland's vision for the years ahead. Thanks to you, and thanks be to God!

Ten years ago today, our family entered our darkest days when our son, Bobby, died in an apartment fire on Peterson Avenue at the top of the brick street off Grinstead Drive.

The hours, days, weeks following Bobby's death are mostly a blur, except for various faces of Highlanders who carried us when we couldn't walk on our own. As devastating as those days were we recall how you embodied God for us and surrounded us with sacred love that would not let us go. We rested our weary souls in this comfort, and still do today. ~Joe

Children's Worship Takes Summer Sabbath

Children's Worship programming for children in K-2nd grades during the 11:00 am worship service will take a summer sabbath beginning June 4. Children's Worship will return for the 2017-2018 school year on Promotion Sunday, August 20.

Children's Corner

Important Children and Family Ministry Dates

June 4	Children's Worship Summer Sabbath Begins
June 23-25	VBS Camp
July 15-18	PASSPORT <i>kids!</i>
August 20	Promotion Sunday; Children's Worship Begins

Youth, youth families and volunteers,

It is certainly a busy time for all families as we approach summer for all and graduation for some! I hope that amidst all the packed schedules and endless flurry of places to be that you are each able to find moments of stillness and quiet, even if for just a moment. At our last YMG meeting our devotion borrowed a suggestion from Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on how to pray in three steps. The first is to thank God for giving us our lives back, the second is to confess our shortcomings, and the last is to stand in the presence of God knowing that God is not indifferent to our struggles and loves us through them no matter how big or small. I will be using this format to center myself as I work on our summer trips (curriculum writing, logistics and all) because I have grown to value the practice of intentional prayer when life feels most chaotic and hurried. Give it a try yourself if it is helpful! We have a remarkable season of life together this summer—I hope you will join alongside us in continued joy! ~Perry

Youth Corner

Wednesday, May 24—No Youth Wednesday Night (Summer Break), Handbell and Orchestra Spring Concert 6:15 p.m.
Sunday, May 28—Sunday School in the Youth Commons, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, May 31—No Wednesday Night (Summer Break)
Sunday, June 4—Sunday School in the Youth Commons, 9:30-10:30 a.m., **SUMMER TRIP MEETING 12:15-1:30 p.m.**

Americana GlobaLou

This celebration of diversity and community is June 3, 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. "Celebrate journeys, cultures, and people from all over the world who call the bluegrass their home." This unique event hosted by the Iroquois Amphitheater is a growing Louisville tradition.

- **5K CHALLENGE** The Young Adults challenge and invite the entire church to join the Highland Baptist Team for the 5K, earlier in the morning at 8AM. The team rate is \$25/runner and you can register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/KY/Louisville/GlobaLou5KRunWalk>. Be sure to click "Highland Baptist Team" and the password is YAsRULE. The more the merrier! All proceeds support Americana Community Center.

If you have any questions contact Michael Whatley through Facebook or email.

Young Adult Corner

Theology on Tap

June 8, the second Thursday of the month—another odd date!—will start a three month series on friendship, sex, and eros love. We will consider how these forms of expression are depicted in culture (tv, film, music), our own lives, and biblically in Song of Songs and elsewhere. Jenny Falcone will lead the first session as we dive into the power and need of platonic relationships.

What is Friday Church?

Friday Church is a vital and generative nucleus within the Louisville community, where people of all situations and backgrounds can gather in the light of God's transforming love, lifted in prayer, fellowship and song—into lives of hope, faith and healing through the grace of God and the spirit of Jesus.

Friday Church provides a safe, encouraging environment for fellowship, song and prayer, inspired by the Biblical stories of the life and teaching of Jesus Christ.

Friday Church gives people a chance to get to know others from different backgrounds, neighborhoods, etc. by worshipping together.

Friday Church builds a community of faith and prayer that unites us in the light of God's love.

How can you be a part of Friday Church?

Join us every Friday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Friday Church Corner

This Week at Highland

Tuesday, May 23

Hope for a Brighter Day (FS)5:30 p.m.
 Handbell/Orchestra rehearsal (Sanctuary)6:30 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH) 10 p.m.

Wednesday, May 24

Fellowship Supper (FH).....5:20-6 p.m.
 Handbell and Orchestra Concert (Sanctuary)6:15 p.m.

Thursday, May 25

HBC Bookends (103)2 p.m.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (FH)7 p.m.

Friday, May 26

Men of Highland Gathering (FS) 8 a.m.
 Friday Church (Sanctuary)7-7:45 p.m.
 Narcotics Anonymous (FH).....8 p.m.

Sunday, May 28

Worship8:30 a.m.
 Worship9:30 a.m.
 Bible Study9:30 a.m.
 Worship11 a.m.
 Bible Study11 a.m.
 Community Missions MG (103).....12:30 p.m.

Monday, May 29

Church Offices Closed

Tuesday, May 30

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

Upcoming Events at Highland

May 29 Church Offices Closed
 June 1 Theology on Tap
 June 4 Kick-off for Global Missions Month
 June 7 Church-wide Picnic at Hogan's Fountain
 June 8 Libation Theology
 June 11 Highlights Class

Letters of Appreciation

Thank to my friends at Highland for the thoughts, prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits during my recent surgery and rehab. All of your heartfelt kindnesses are appreciated and helped me and my family get through the surgery and continued recovery. ~ Procter Eubank

Dear Members of Highland, thank you so much for the kind recognition last Wednesday. It has been our pleasure to have served you in the kitchen these many years. It goes without saying we would not have prepared countless Wednesday night fellowship meals if we did not enjoy serving our community of faith in this role. Of course, we can't let the opportunity pass without also thanking all who have served on the kitchen crews with us in the past, Steve Brown and all the dish washing crews for their dedication to the success of our Wednesday night fellowship gatherings. We appreciate their willingness to serve as well as the many memories all of us who gather every Wednesday have made over the years.
 ~ Geoff Hale, Ronnie Gilbert and Tyler Swim

Wednesday Night Menus

May 24

Spaghetti
 Meatballs
 Salad
 Dessert



Adults: \$5.00 Children 4-8: \$2.50 Max per family: \$15.00

Reminder: If you have a reservation you are responsible to pay for it. Cancellations must be made *no later than noon the Tuesday before your reservation*. You may also contact the church office to make your reservations/cancellations.

Please Note: After May 24, Geoff Hale, Ronnie Gilbert, and Tyler Swim will no longer be preparing our Wednesday night dinners. Please be sure to thank them when you see them for their many years of service.

Goal: \$1,800,000.00
 Total pledged: \$1,608,269.00
 Paid this week: \$2,585.00
 Total paid to date: \$1,391,553.00



This Week's Deacons

Friday, 7:00 p.m.

Cheryl Davis (C), Mike McFall

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Mark Golightly Sanders, Sharon Sanders (C), Gene Streible (G), Tyler Swim

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Mary Burks (C), Bruce Carroll (G), Mark Golightly Sanders, Reece Little

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Tony Carney, Dana Connor-Israel (C), Kim Shippey (G), Lance Springs

Extreme Build XII

For the twelfth year, CBF Kentucky and partners like Highland will build a home alongside a family in McCreary County, Kentucky, identified by CBF's *Together for Hope* initiative as one of the twenty poorest counties in America. House by house, we are building affordable, sustainable homes; family by family, we are changing lives.

This year's Extreme Build partner family is Kimberly Powell. Kimberly has had temporary custody of young Chloe for the past thirteen years due to the love in her heart for the child. She also has temporary custody of her six-year-old grandson, Tajah. He has lived with her since he was fifteen months old. She wishes to give the children a safe and comfortable environment in the coming years.

We need volunteers both skilled and unskilled! Folks can serve one or two days or the entire week. Below are some of the tasks that will be needed on particular days of the build... can you join to fun? Registration cost is \$25 per day, up to \$100 total (includes supplies, meals, and t-shirt). You may register by May 26, on Eventbrite or contact the CBFKY office at rhonda@cbfky.org and are responsible for your own hotel accommodations.

Framing: June 7-10; Flooring: June 14-15; Siding: June 12-16; Landscaping: June 16-17; Painting: June 12-17; Kitchen: June 12-17; Hanging Drywall: June 13



Global Missions Offering

Coming soon! The Global Missions Ministry Group announces the annual Global Missions Offering for 2017. During the month of June, Highland will ask for generosity toward world missions. We call this effort "Global Missions Offering for Cooperative Baptist Fellowship," and it includes salaries for field workers ("missionaries" or "missioners").

We met David and Julie Brown when he spoke to our church and introduced the work in Morocco. David uses music in the work, and Julie is a nurse. Currently posted in France, they serve with Sub-Saharan people. They write, "Many of the people in the churches we work with are refugees, immigrants and migrants (often undocumented). These are wonderful folks seeking freedom and a better way of life. There are numerous members of the Mosaic Paris Choir who do not have their papers. This situation sometimes makes it impossible for them to participate in all of the activities such as Christmas music at the prison. Pray for these precious brothers and sisters."

In the coming newsletters, watch for more information from field workers who represent Jesus.



Diaper Drive for Kentucky Refugee Ministries (KRM)

In 2016, KRM's Family Center, here at Highland served 64 families (84 children). Though KRM provides diapers while the children are in class, staff at the center say many families simply do not have the financial resources to purchase enough to use at home. The director of the Family Center said it is not uncommon for a parent to bring in a child who is wearing the same diaper she/he had on the previous day.

Newly resettling refugees live on extremely limited subsidies until they are able to find employment. KRM believes they could provide much-needed relief to families and little ones if they kept a supply of diapers, which it could distribute to the families in greatest need.

This Sunday, May 28th., if your final chance to donate! Please bring your gift of diapers (especially size 4!), to the donation bins outside the choir room. THANK YOU!



Reel to Real: A Mission Film Series

The Justice Ministry Group invites you to our third "Reel to Real." The film *Hope* by director Boris Lojkine is Tuesday, June 13, at 7:00 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. You can read more about the film at <http://brightlightsfilm.com/the-world-of-the-road-is-a-state-of-exception-boris-lojkine-hope-explores-the-world-of-african-migrants/#.WQISpfnyuM8>. It explores the world of African migrants, and we will have a panel conversation following the viewing.

Highlights from Children's Choir Concert Service



Around Highland...

... Many thanks to Buddy Lee who is retiring after 11 years of faithful teaching and shepherding the SALT class. You will be missed, Buddy!

... The Highland Book Club will meet on Sunday, June 11, 6:00 p.m., in room 103, to discuss "All the Birds in the Sky" by Charlie Jane Anders. Everyone is invited!

... On Wednesday evening, May 17, Highland honored our faithful kitchen cooking team of Geoff Hale, Tyler Swim, and Ronnie Gilbert (pictured) who will be retiring from their roles at the end of this school year.



Weekly Financial Report May 14, 2017 (19 weeks)

	Weekly Requirement	Receipts This Week	YTD Requirements	YTD Receipts	YTD Over/Under
Contributions	\$22,075.40	\$18,059.68	\$407,197.34	\$379,177.20	(\$28,020.14)
Other Income	\$664.58	\$1,613.65	\$12,627.10	\$18,155.84	\$5,528.74
Total	\$22,739.98	\$19,673.33	\$419,824.44	\$397,333.04	(\$22,491.40)