




The Highland Evangel (USPS 243960) is published weekly except for the week of the Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas by the HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH 3400 27th Street, Meridian MS 39305. Telephone—601.482.0191 www.highlandbaptist.net  
 Periodical postage paid at Meridian, MS.  
 POSTMASTER: send address changes to The Highland Evangel, 3400 27th Street, Meridian, MS 39305.



June 9 Proverbs 25-27, Psalm 6  
 June 10 Proverbs 28, Psalm 7  
 June 11 Ecclesiastes 1-4, Psalm 8  
 June 12 Ecclesiastes 5-8, Psalm 9  
 June 13 Ecclesiastes 9-12, Psalm 10  
 June 14 Song of Songs 1-4, Psalm 11  
 June 15 Song of Songs 5-8, Psalm 12



**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS June 9**  
*Will and Heather Woodall*  
*Corey and Holly Johnson*

**BIBLE COLLECTION**  
 Project Bible Runners is collecting new and used Bibles to distribute around the world. You can bring them to the Church Office or the Lauderdale Baptist Association Office by June 13.

**2024 SUMMER READING PROGRAM**  
 Children and Youth entering K-12 this fall can still sign-up for the Summer Reading Program on Sunday morning. The Library is open between Sunday School and Worship and after Worship.



Volume 65

June 9, 2024

Number 22

# COMING SOON

**SUNDAY, JUNE 9**

Deacon's Meeting	8:00 AM
Sunday School	9:00-9:45 AM
Morning Worship	10:00-11:00 AM
Men's Bible Study (Ephesians) led by Paul Allen in the College Sunday School Class	5:00 PM

**SUNDAY, JUNE 9—THURSDAY, JUNE 13**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 5:30—8:00 PM  
 Sign up on Shelby today!

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY** Adult Exercise at 8:30 AM

**TUESDAY, JUNE 11**

Men's Bible Study led by Chad Casey 6:00 PM  
 in Sylvia Gambill's Sunday School Class

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12**

- Men's Bible Study at Dr. Britt McCarty's office at 5:30 AM  
 - **Wednesday Weekly Prayer Meeting and Bible Study**  
 10:00 AM in the Tea Room  
 Come join us for a time of Prayer, Bible Study, Fellowship and Refreshments!

**THURSDAY, JUNE 13** Project Bible Runners Bible Collection

## FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF CHURCH ADMINISTRATION...

### Artificial Intelligence & the Holy Spirit

#### What Is Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

“Artificial intelligence (AI) technology allows computers and machines to **SIMULATE** human intelligence and problem-solving tasks. The ideal characteristic of artificial intelligence is its ability to rationalize and take action to achieve a specific goal. AI research began in the 1950s and was used in the 1960s by the United States Department of Defense when it trained computers to mimic human reasoning”(Investopedia.com). Yes, this is how Amazon and others send you advertisements for items you just looked at on the internet.

We are currently using a program developed by a company named Church.Tech to provide AI capabilities for our staff. This company was founded by an ordained minister with ten years in the pulpit and some considerable computer skills, and this article is intended to describe what the Church.Tech AI can and can't do.

#### What Can AI Do?

AI can be used to automate certain activities to allow the Ministerial Staff to “Spend Less Time with Technology and More Time with People”(@ChurchDotTech). Let me give you a few examples.

- AI can produce devotionals based on a sermon.
- AI can produce Bible Study Leader's Guides based on a sermon.
- AI can produce Parent's Guides to help children understand based on a sermon.
- AI can produce age specific curriculum based on a sermon.
- AI can produce what can be described in a search prompt based on a sermon (the sermon handout on Sunday is an example).

I believe that the more we use this tool, the more we will find for it to do.

#### What Can't AI Do?

There are many things that AI can do and many things that it can't do (please note the word “simulate” in the first paragraph. A few examples are listed below.

- Church.Tech won't try to sell you something.
- Church.Tech won't write a sermon.
  - o The AI capabilities are only applied to information furnished by the Senior Pastor.
  - o A fundamental, operating principle of Church.Tech is that they will not interfere with operation of the Holy Spirit in the sermon creation process.
  - o Church.Tech considers AI written sermons to be unethical at best.
- One of their goals is to give the pastor more time to pastor. (Their goal is 10 hours per week saved).

#### Summary

We are excited about the many ways to use this new tool, and we are open to any and all ideas for expanding its use.



A promotional poster for a Sunday School Summer Series. The background features a map of Europe and a passport. The text reads: "YOU'RE INVITED SUNDAY SCHOOL SUMMER SERIES TRAVEL THROUGH THE STORIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT! JUNE 9 - JULY 28". At the bottom, it says "BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR FRIENDLY LOCAL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS DREW AND KENNY" with a photo of two men.

#### HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF JOHN REMY BY:

Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Smith

Designated to the HBC Benevolence Fund by Garry, Dane & Brooke Lawyer  
Designated to the HBC Benevolence Fund by Mr. and Mrs. Pete Roberts

IN MEMORY OF CLARICE RASCO:

Designated to the Highlanders by Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Townsend  
Designated to the Music Ministry by Highland Baptist Church

**CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY ARE EXTENDED TO:**

...the family of Mrs. Clarice Rasco.



A colorful poster for a Vacation Bible School. The background shows a tropical beach scene with a lighthouse, palm trees, and a boat. The text reads: "BREAKER ROCK BEACH Vacation Bible School June 9-13, 2024 5:30—8:00 pm Sign up on Shelby today!"

#### STEWARDSHIP REPORT JUNE 2, 2024

Giving to budget to date	\$429,721.28	SUNDAY SCHOOL	231
Giving to budget (5-27/6-2)	\$22,877.64	WORSHIP	248