



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church May 21, 2024

A reminder that we have limited air conditioning in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Pay attention to the weather to help you know how to dress appropriately for worship, adult Bible study, and Wednesday night activities!

Upcoming PRIDE Opportunities

We are looking forward to PRIDE month in our Kentuckiana area and in our congregation. There are lots of opportunities coming up for Highland to love our neighbors, be strong allies with and alongside the LGBTQ+ community, and share with others about who we are as a thinking, feeling, and healing community of faith.

- **May 31 – June 8: Won't You Be My May-Bor at Actor's Theatre of Louisville**

Whether you've never seen a drag show, are curious, are skeptical, or are a long-time fan, we hope you'll join us for Andrew Newton Sahftlein's upcoming show! It will be a great space to explore, learn, and grow together as we discover what it looks like to be a good neighbor in our world! A first preview on May 31 is a free event supported by Fund for the Arts for our community. Additional shows are on June 1-2 and 7-8. Bob Cunningham and Mary Alice Birdwhistell will be hosting a special talk-back with Andrew after the show on June 8. [Buy your tickets here.](#)



- **June 6: Drag Revival at Highlands Community Ministries (7:00 PM)**

Join Louisville area communities of faith for the third annual, Drag Revival! Drag Revival is an annual event where folks from the LGBTQIA+ community and allies come to express their relationship to their faith in a queer affirming space. This is an all ages, family friendly event. Tickets are \$10 and will likely sell out! [Available for purchase here.](#)



- **June 7: Pride Night at Racing Louisville Game with other local affirming congregations**

Highland will join with other churches and the community to cheer on the Racing Louisville Soccer Club for their annual Pride Night! The game will start at 8:00 PM. You can buy your tickets directly through Racing Louisville at [THIS LINK](#) for the Highland Baptist section! Cost per ticket is \$21.20 (including a service fee). If you have questions about this event, please email [Justin Sizemore](#).

**RACING LOUISVILLE
PRIDE NIGHT!**

**JUNE 7TH @8PM
\$20**



- **June 15: Kentuckiana Pride Parade and Festival**

Sign up to walk with us in the parade and/or help at Highland's booth in the festival starting this Sunday in the Commons!

- **June 16: Pride Sunday at Highland, with special guest proclaimer Rev. Jordan Conley, Co-Pastor of Crescent Hill Baptist Church**



*Around Highland
on May 19*



Highland Welcomes New Member



Collier Harston joined Highland May 19, 2024

Come Hear the “Four Rs and Friends” Concert!

On Wednesday, May 22, the HBC Orchestra will present their spring concert at 6:15 PM in the sanctuary. The title of the concert is “Four Rs and Friends” (that’s the letter R), and you’ll have to attend to learn what that means!



The concert is, of course, free and open to all, so invite your friends and family and come for a wide range of instrumental music — and possibly a video presentation as well!

~ Bruce Maples

Children's Choirs Spring Concert



Celebrating Lauren Jones Mayfield

We look forward to celebrating Lauren Jones Mayfield on Sunday, June 2 and sharing our gratitude for her 8 years of ministry at Highland.



There will be a church-wide reception after the 11:15 worship service that morning. As a way to express our thanks, we invite you to consider bringing a note, a Carmichael's gift card, and/or a monetary donation for Lauren to attend a spiritual retreat in the coming year. Any monetary donations can be given online and/or through the church offering and designated as a "Gift for Lauren." You're also invited to wear your favorite social justice t-shirt in celebration of Lauren's ministry!



OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS

BECAUSE **PRESENCE** MATTERS

May is the month for our Global Missions emphasis and we are collecting an Offering for Global Missions. 100% of this offering goes to support the long-term presence of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) field personnel serving in the United States and around the world. Highland's Global Mission Team has set a goal of \$10,000 this year. These funds support over 50 field personnel working in over 18 countries who are cultivating community and doing transformative work both locally and globally. [Click here](#) to see how your offerings will be used.

Please consider supporting CBF missions and our global and national partnerships "Because Presence Matters." You may give online on the Highland Baptist Church website or by check, noting Missions Offering on the memo line.

Festival of Homiletics

You may not know that I have a close circle of pastor friends with whom I have shared life and ministry over the past four years. Since COVID, we have met with one another almost monthly over Zoom calls to share about various challenges, ideas, and questions we have in our ministries, and to offer encouragement and support for one another in the "hard and holy work" that we share. Back in 2022, we began trying to meet in-person once a year, and last week, we met in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at the [Festival of Homiletics](#).



We soaked in rich sermons and lectures by some of our favorite preachers, pastors, theologians, and writers. We attended book releases for [Brian McLaren](#) and [Grace Ji-Sun Kim](#), heard incredible sermons by [Amy Butler](#) and [Otis Moss III](#) and learned to read stories of the Old Testament with a completely new lens from [Anna Carter Florence](#). However, the conversations we shared over meals and late into the night were even richer. From topics like church budgets and staffing and aging buildings to the future of the Church and new sermon ideas to how we plan to care for ourselves and our congregations in the midst of an election year, we covered the gamut. It is gift and grace to share this “odd and wondrous calling” with my friends Carol McEntyre (First Baptist Greenville, SC), Preston Clegg (Second Baptist Little Rock, AR), and Jason Edwards (Second Baptist Liberty, MO); I am a better person and pastor because of each of them.

Thank you to our staff for covering for me during this time away last week, and thank you, Highland, for making renewing experiences like this possible for your pastors! I’m sure you will hear many of the stories, reflections, and ideas I gleaned from the conference in my sermons in the days and weeks to come.

~ Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Cream of the Crop News

Our Cream of the Crop group met for lunch on May 14 at Kingfish Restaurant. Fourteen of our group joined Ginny Sims at SOS to learn about their mission to deliver health and hope both globally and locally and also spent time sorting needed medical supplies.



Sacred Space Project Update

We are hard at work installing a temporary cooling solution in the sanctuary, until we are able to turn on the new HVAC system. While these four units (pictured below) won't provide all of the cooling of our new system, they should take the edge off the heat of the season. You'll see them in the four corners of the sanctuary this weekend.



Work continues in other parts of the building. The room that abuts the Commons and that used to house the first floor air handler will eventually become the new music storage room, but not until electrical panels are moved, new system piping is installed, and ductwork is routed. Below shows Bruce Rogers and several of our contractor team examining the room.



~ Walter McWhorter

Looking Ahead

- May 22 Spring Orchestra Concert (6:15 PM)
- June 2 Lauren Jones Mayfield's Last Sunday in Worship and Celebration of Ministry
- June 6 Drag Revival: A Family-Friendly Spiritual Night of Music and Joy (Highlands Community Ministries)
- June 7 Racing Louisville Game (Lynn Family Stadium, 8:00 PM)
- June 15 Kentuckiana PRIDE Parade and Festival (NULU and Waterfront Park, Parade begins at 12:00 PM)
- June 16 Pride Sunday at Highland, with special guest proclaimer Rev. Jordan Conley, Co-Pastor of Crescent Hill Baptist Church
- July 21 Party with your Pastors (Purtlebaugh House, 4:00-5:30 PM)

Sunday, 11:15 AM

<https://www.facebook.com/hbclouisville.org>
<https://www.youtube.com/@highlandbaptist>

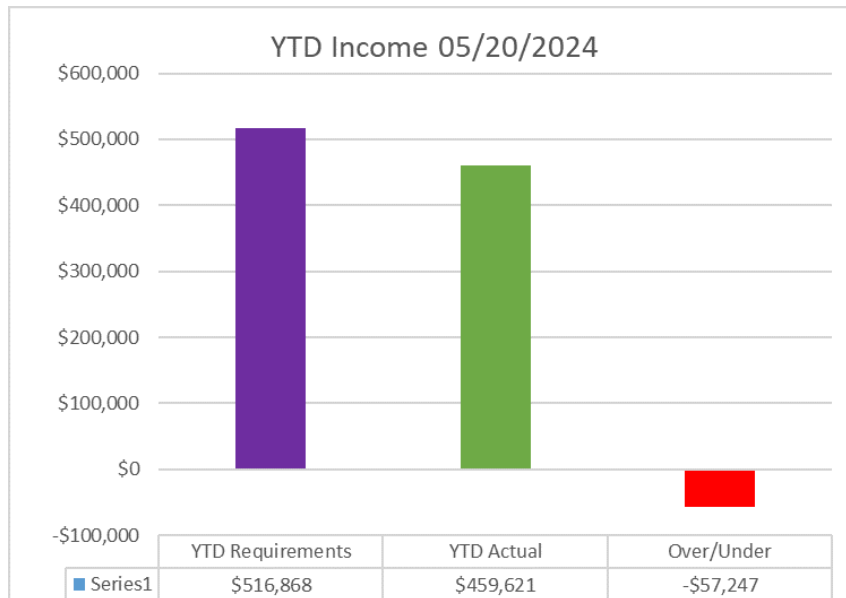
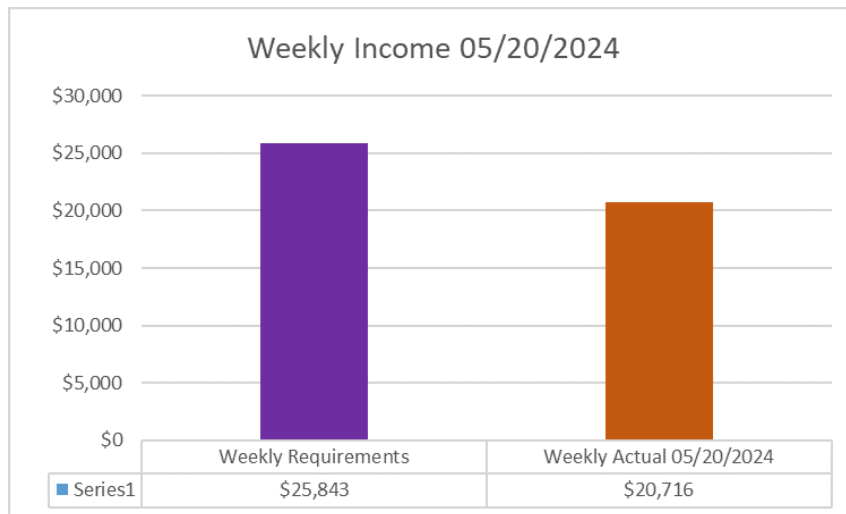
Friday, 7:00 PM

<https://www.facebook.com/hbclouisville.org>

**Streaming
Worship
Links**



Financial Reports



To make a donation from your phone, text "give2hbc" to 502-747-1212
and open the link or use the QR code below.



Louisville Homicides

Please join us in prayer and action as we remember those who have been killed in recent weeks in our city. We grieve with those who mourn, while we also maintain a hope that one day, all things will be made new.

- Jashawn Crook, 29, died May 6
 - Aaron Anderson, 26, killed May 11
 - Adrian Lewis, 31, killed May 11
 - David Martinez, 18, killed May 11
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