



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church ***June 11, 2024***

**A reminder that we have limited air conditioning
in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall.**

Mission, Vision, and Values

Many of you may remember the Vision 2020 Task Force and the tremendous work that took place over the course of 18+ months to develop [Mission, Vision, and Value](#) statements for the church. This work was incredibly valuable in helping Highland come together around our core identity as a faith community. The next step of the process was to have been the development of a strategic plan that would guide us in determining ministry priorities to live out our mission over the next 3-5 years. However, due to the pandemic, staff retirements and resignations, and interim periods, this step was never undertaken. Since January of 2024, the Ministry Council has focused on a review of the materials from Vision 2020 and moving towards the development of a strategic plan.

During the discussions within Ministry Council, we learned of the potential for once again partnering with the [Center for Congregational Health](#) to come alongside us in this work. The Center has received a grant from the Lilly Endowment to work with congregations post-COVID who are seeking to develop a strategic mission and ministry plan to carry the church into the future. This grant enables the Center to cut the cost by \$10,000, leaving HBC with a \$5,000 obligation. The Mission and Justice Ministry group has approved using undesignated funds in their budget to cover this remaining cost to help us move forward with engaging these services as they will significantly affect how we live out our commitments to mission and justice in the days ahead.

Beginning in the fall, the Center for Congregational Health will begin working with our lay leadership and our entire congregation, including two in-person visits to Louisville, to explore how our current ministries align with our mission, vision, and values as well as developing goals and

plans for determining priorities for mission and ministry over the next 3-5 years. You may remember that Mary Alice has preached about the necessity of this congregational work in sermons earlier this year about learning [when to say “yes”](#) and [when to say “no.”](#) In the days ahead, we will be asking ourselves, where do we sense God is calling us to invest our time and energies in the coming years? How do we plan to get there? Out of all the things we could do, what are the best ways for us to live out our YES to God? As we look at all the areas of passion and interest at Highland, as we look at our budget, and as we look at our capacity, we may need to say “no” to some things – even some really good and worthwhile things - in order to say YES to what we as the congregation discern are the most important things God is calling us toward. We look forward to sharing more information about this process as it unfolds in the days ahead.

Mary Alice Birdwhistell, Pastor
Lauren Blackwell, Ministry Council Chair and Interim Ministry Coordinator



Pride Month Opportunities

Happy Pride, Highland! There are still many opportunities 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.

PRIDE MONTH AT HIGHLAND!



**PRIDE PARADE AND FESTIVAL
JUNE 15TH**



**PRIDE SUNDAY @ HIGHLAND
JUNE 16TH**



**HIGHLAND
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Saturday June 15: Kentuckiana Pride Parade and Festival

There is still time to join us for the parade! We have had several folks sign up to join us and would love to have as many as possible! If you are interested in joining us for the parade, please [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up for the text updates on where to meet on Saturday. If you have already signed up to walk, please [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up for the text updates as well. If you are planning on attending the festival, you will need a ticket. Tickets are available for \$10. [Buy festival tickets here.](#)

June 16: Pride Sunday at Highland

We are excited to welcome Rev. Jordan Conley, Co-Pastor at Crescent Hill Baptist Church as our guest proclaimer for Pride Sunday!



Jordan was called as Co-Pastor of Preaching, Pastoral Care, & Imaginative Witness at Crescent Hill Baptist Church in 2022 after serving Crescent Hill as Interim Youth Minister. He is a graduate of BSK Theological Seminary & Campbellsville University. Jordan is originally from Knott County, Kentucky, and now lives in the Highlands with his husband, Patrick Allison, and their dog, Kenzie. In his spare time, you may find him rooting on UK (Go Big Blue!), enjoying Cherokee Park, or listening to a podcast.

~ Justin Sizemore

Quarterly Church Conference on June 23

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 23 at 4:00 PM for our next QCC via Zoom. The agenda will include reports from Finance and Personnel, an update on our Sacred Space renovation, as well as voting on a new Vice Chair of Deacons and member of our Church Trustees. In addition, information will be shared regarding the church's 501c3 (nonprofit) status and the engagement of the Center for Congregational Health for assistance with strategic planning. A full agenda will be emailed next week, along with a Zoom link.

Sacred Space Project Update

Last week we saw the delivery of more hardware for the new HVAC system, primarily in the attic space above the Youth Suite and in the new Fellowship Hall mechanical room as seen in this picture.



Every Thursday morning a team project meeting is held which includes Bruce Rogers (architect), Abbi Wolfe and me (HVAC Upgrade Team representatives), the general contractor team (David Bryant and some of his crew), and various combinations of subcontractors and engineers. We analyze recently completed work, examine plans for the upcoming week, and delve into any questions or issues that may be looming.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and support throughout this process!

~Walter McWhorter

Children's Bible Study Teacher Appreciation - June 9





Calling all of our graduates for the 2024 school year! We want to recognize our college/grad school/other graduates this year on Sunday, June 23! If you would like to be a part of the recognition during the June 23rd service, [please send your information to Justin](#) by June 20! We want to celebrate alongside you this graduation season!

Youth Volunteer Opportunities

Highland Family:

It is such a joy to minister to and alongside our amazing youth here! They are such a fun, energetic, challenging, and brilliant group! As we head into these summer months and begin preparing for the fall, I wanted to extend an invitation to the congregation to plug in with the Youth Ministry. One of my passions in ministry is that none of us do this work alone, but together as one beautiful congregation from the youngest to the oldest among us.



With that said, I wanted to share a few ways for folks to get involved in the life of the youth ministry. These opportunities range from providing food to chaperoning trips! If you are interested in helping, please [reach out](#) and let me know! I would love for our youth to know more of the congregation and to bring some new faces in as well!

Here are some ways to help:

1. PASSPORT July 1-5 – We are still in need of one more FEMALE chaperone for PASSPORT Camp. If you are interested, please let Justin know ASAP.
2. Providing Breakfast on the 1st Sunday of each month – We try to have breakfast for the youth at least once a month. We usually do that on the 1st Sunday of the month and would love to have you help! You can go buy donuts or other pastries, fruit, or make something homemade - it's up to you! If you are interested, let me know and I will send you the sign up for the fall!
3. Providing Lunch for our Mentor Groups – When we have mentor groups after church, we could use some folks to provide lunch. It can be pizza or sandwiches or whatever else you may want to bring! If you are interested, let me know and I will send you the sign up for the fall!
4. Volunteering for trips and events!

There are so many ways to volunteer with our youth ministry, all of which provide so much care and love for our youth and me! If you have any questions, please let me know! Excited to see the ways we can all serve together in this beautiful ministry!

~ Justin Sizemore

Cream of the Crop News

Reminders for our Mary Miller Cruise on Thursday, June 20:

Bus riders arrive in the back church parking lot by 11:00 AM, we'll leave at 11:15 AM.

Car riders need to arrive at the boat wharf by 11:45 for boarding and tickets will be given to all. Parking is available in the [Parc Wharf lot \(BLUE LOT\) at 131 W. River Road](#) (entrance by Joe's Crab Shack). Once you have entered the lot, turn left and drive down the lot toward the boats.

Please note that this is a **paid lot** operated by PARC. To pre-pay for parking, click [here](#). Payment can also be made day-of at the blue and yellow Pay Station along the wharf. (If you pre-pay for parking, there is no need to visit the Pay Station on the day of your cruise.) If the Wharf lot is full, the Riverview Parking Garage off of 6th Street is another nearby option.

July 9 – Tour of the Kentucky Derby Museum - \$17

Tour at 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow at Wagner's Pharmacy, a Louisville institution!

August 13 – Potluck Luncheon with entertainment by Emmanuel Maize and Paul Henderson from the American Songbook repertoire.

Shredded pork taco bar. Sort school supplies we will collect through July.

Looking Ahead...

October 14-17 – Chartered Bus Trip to Chicago

Cost \$622 for double occupancy, \$771 for single occupancy. Price includes transportation, lodging, six meals, and tours. [Contact me](#) for further information.

~ Paul Henderson



Since its debut in the 1970s, “Joseph” has become one of the world’s most beloved family musicals. This epic story and its timeless score feature much-loved pop and musical theatre classics, including *Any Dream Will Do*, *Close Every Door*, *There’s One More Angel In Heaven* and *Go, Go, Go Joseph*. **Save 10% off tickets using the Promo Code JOSEPH.** Offer is not valid on General Admission tickets.

HCM Summer Food Drive

Please bring your food drive donations to the brown bins located outside the choir room. We will collect them until June 23. Thank you!



We are seeking donations of the items below to help families get through the summer while school is out.

Main dietary items are needed, but also things to round out a meal like milk (shelf-stable), condiments, chips, and crackers.



- Pasta & Sauce
- Canned Ravioli
- Shells & Cheese (no milk needed)

- Beef Stew
- Hearty Soups
- Chili

- Canned Chicken
- Canned Tuna
- Canned Beef



Highlands
Community
Ministries

grow. heal. play.

Juneteenth 2024

The Emancipation Proclamation was signed on January 1, 1863. This proclamation did not mean freedom for all who were held in captivity and bondage; enslavers kept the news of the change in laws from those they enslaved for many years after. On June 19, 1865, Major General [Gordon Granger ordered](#) the final enforcement of the [Emancipation Proclamation](#) in Texas. In 2021, June 19th, known as Juneteenth, was recognized as a federal holiday to commemorate the end of slavery in the United States.

Highland Baptist member and Anti-Racism co-lead Missy Smith is a co-organizer for the Jeffersonville Juneteenth Block Party. This second annual event will be held on Friday, June 14 from 10:00 AM-9:00 PM on Michigan Avenue. The Juneteenth Block Party will promote the Black/African American history of Southern Indiana, educate the public about the importance of Juneteenth, and highlight the positive impact of the local African American culture. This event further allows opportunities for the full and inclusive community to learn and celebrate Black history, engage in commerce with local businesses, craft vendors, and local artists. Plus, there will be bounce houses, great food, and great music!



Highland Baptist Church, in its commitment to furthering equity in our community, has chosen to sponsor this important event. We invite you to show your support by sharing the event information, volunteering, and attending the celebration!

[Click here](https://commonconvo.tv/juneteenth) for more information.

~ The Anti-Racism Team

Looking Ahead

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
June 20	Senior Adult Luncheon aboard the Mary Miller Riverboat (12:00 PM)
June 23	Young Adult Lunch (Following 11:15 Worship)
July 21	Young Adult Lunch (Following 11:15 Worship)
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>

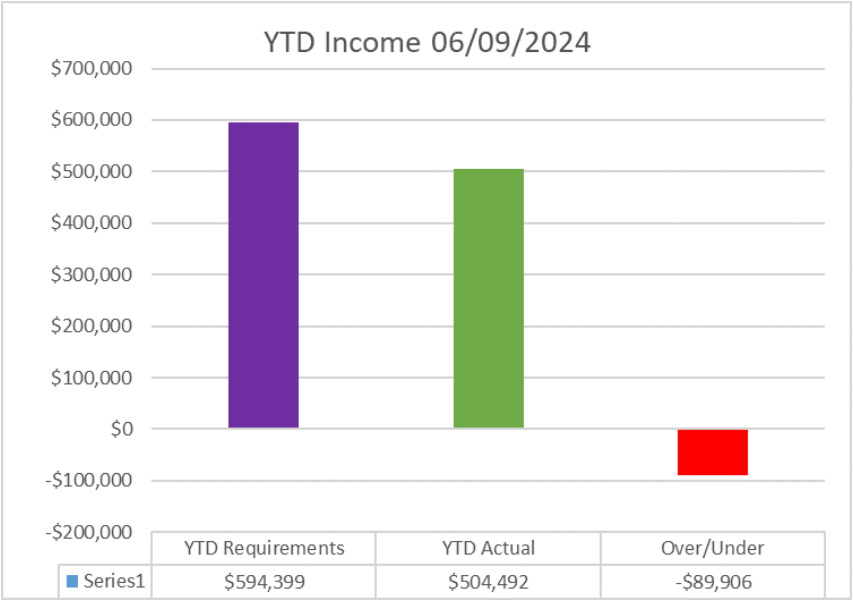
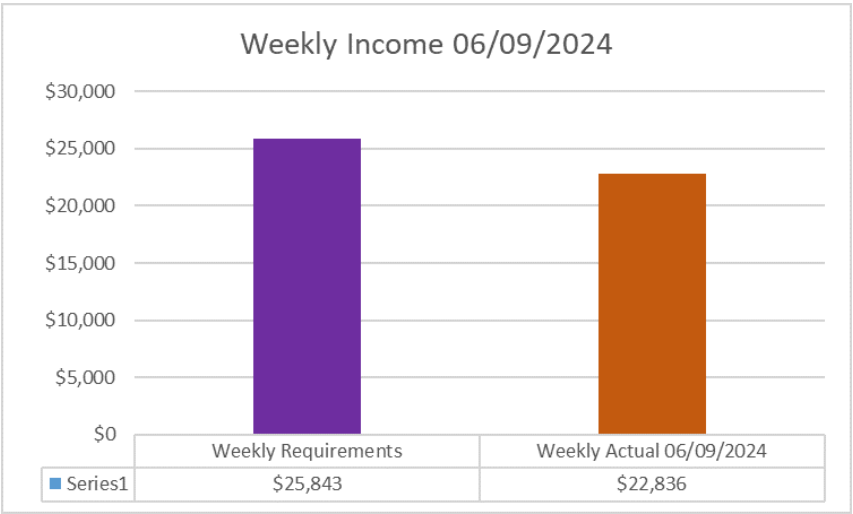
Friday, 7:00 PM

<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.**



Dave McNeely, Former HBC Member, Passed Away



Dave passed away on June 2, 2024. He played in the church orchestra and was an active member of the Men's Group that meets on Friday mornings. Dave, a gifted psychiatrist, devoted his life to helping others through his work in the field of mental health. [Here is a link](#) to his obituary.



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.

- Robert Crosson, Jr., 53, killed May 29
- David Andino, 70, killed June 1
- Jamila Jackson, 45, killed June 2
- Jibril Tariq Liles, 20, killed June 4



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