

# The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church June 18, 2024

## **Please Note Upcoming Changes**

Because of the outside temperatures and the lack of air conditioning in the sanctuary, this Sunday, June 23, we will ONLY have our 8:45 AM worship service (no 11:15 service), followed by our regular Bible study classes at 10:00 AM. Ice-water will be available again and we encourage you to dress coolly to be in this space. The 8:45 service WILL be live-streamed.

Starting next Sunday, June 30, we will move to a **new summer schedule** and **various new meeting locations** around the building. We are in the process of finalizing those details and will share more information with you soon.

Additionally, Friday Church will begin meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Fridays at 7:00 PM when it is too hot to meet outside.

Know that we are grateful for your patience and flexibility in the midst of our continued renovation process. As our staff discuss all the different ways to respond, we keep saying to one another, "COVID taught us well how to pivot, and **we can do this!**" While our summer plans may not not ideal, we will do our best to keep each other safe in the rising temperatures while also prioritizing meeting in person in whatever ways and spaces we can. **We can do this, Highland!** 

~ Your Highland Baptist Church Staff

Theologian Phyllis Tickle is known for saying that every 500 years, the church has a "giant rummage sale," deciding what to let go of, what to keep, and how to make space for new things to emerge among us. She wrote about this theory in her book *The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why*, which was released in 2012, several years before COVID and the seismic shifts we have experienced since then. In <u>an interview with Faith & Leadership</u>, Tickle encourages churches today to have honest conversations about these seismic shifts - to see them as opportunities to live out our faith in fresh, new ways. Her next words of wisdom are to take a hard look at everything we're doing and to "trim, trim, trim."

Of course, we all know this is easier said than done!

As you've now heard, Highland will begin working with the Center for Congregational Health this fall, engaging in conversation with one another about what our priorities for mission and ministry will be over the next 3-5 years. We will be having our own yard sale of sorts, asking ourselves questions like: Of all the things we are *currently* doing, what feels *most important* to us as a community of faith? Out of all the things we *could be* doing, what are the *best ways* for us to live out our mission? And 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 will likely need to *let go* of some things – to trim even some really good and worthwhile things - in order to say a wholehearted yes to what we as the congregation discern are the most important things God is calling us toward.

As a way to prepare us for this work, I'm going to be preaching over the next few weeks on some of the messages I think Christ has to offer us in the changing landscape of Church today:

- June 23: "Peace! Be Still": Ministry in Tumultuous Times (Mark 4:35-41)
- June 30: "Get Up": Ministry When it Feels Too Late for Change (Mark 5:21-43)
- July 7: "Shake it Off": Ministry in a World Where You're Not Welcome (Mark 6:1-13)
- July 14: "Go and See": Ministry in a Time of Scarcity (Mark 6:35-44)

I hope you'll join us in-person or online, wherever you are in these summer weeks! We are a more whole community because of each of you. We need everyone's voice as we discern together how we will join in the work of God, creating a world where justice and Love are abundant.

~ Mary Alice Birdwhistell



## **Quarterly Church Conference on June 23**

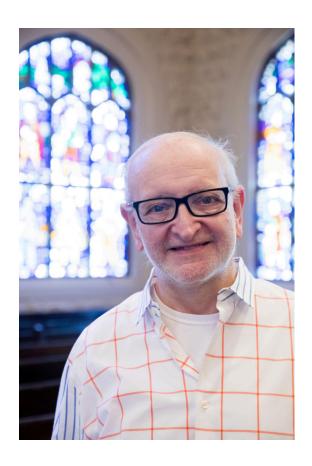
Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 23 at 4:00 PM for our next QCC via Zoom. The agenda will include reports from Finance and Personnel, an update on our Sacred Space renovation, as well as voting on a new Vice Chair of Deacons and member of our Church Trustees. In addition, information will be shared 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 on Friday, along with a Zoom link.



**Highland Welcomes News Members** 



Scott and Andrew Schaftlein joined on June 16 (pictured with their children, Birch and Bebe)



## Highland also welcomes Kris Brady, who will visit regularly from our sister church, Crescent Hill Baptist Church

## **Sacred Space Project Update**

We are delighted to announce that the Minority Contractors Association of Kentuckiana (MCAK) has awarded Highland the "Owner/Project Award" for 2024 for our use of and commitment to minority contractors and subcontractors in our current HVAC system and project. MCAK was instrumental in helping us locate and select Overflow Systems, who is our General Contractor.



~Walter McWhorter

# **Survey for Churches and Diversity Study at Bellarmine University**

The Ministry Council has voted for Highland to participate in a research project being conducted by Iris Jasmin, a doctoral student at Bellarmine University in the School of Education. Iris' research relates to social change and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), and she has a personal passion for discovering how churches are embracing and living out this important work. Iris has visited

Highland several times now and in all of our weekend services and has spent time interviewing Mary Alice and Lauren as well. Now, she'd like to hear from the congregation! She writes:

"I am conducting a research study examining the effectiveness of language and strategies used by churches to create an environment within their congregational community where a diversity of humanity can feel welcome and a sense of belonging can be experienced. Your congregation has been identified as making intentional efforts to reflect diversity, equity, and inclusion values. You are being invited to complete the following questionnaire for examining the effectiveness of language and strategies used by churches to create an environment within their congregational community where a diversity of humanity can feel welcome, and a sense of belonging can be experienced.

The questionnaire is part of a research study of two churches. There are no reasonably foreseeable risks associated with your participation in this study. Your participation may or may not benefit you directly. However, the information learned in this study may be helpful to others. The data you provide will assist in understanding the effectiveness of congregational communities' efforts to create spaces where all feel welcomed and have a sense of belonging.

If you are willing to participate, please use <u>this link</u>. The first page of the questionnaire is the informed consent that you will need to review. Once you review, you will need to click on the response 'I understand' to proceed to survey questions. The deadline for completing the questionnaire is July 2, 2024. Thank you in advance for your participation."

Thank you for supporting Iris' important research and work, Highland! We look forward to inviting her to share with us as a congregation later this year about her findings so that we might continue to learn and grow together.

~ Mary Alice Birdwhistell

## **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, and we'll leave at 11:10 AM. Car riders need to arrive at the boat wharf by 11:30 for boarding and tickets will be given to all. Parking is available in the <a href="Parc Wharf lot (BLUE LOT)">Parc Wharf lot (BLUE LOT)</a> 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 <a href="here">here</a>. 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.

#### <u>July 25 – Tour of the Kentucky Derby Museum</u>

We'll be going to the Derby Museum for a private tour on Thursday, July 25 from 10:00 AM-12:00 Noon, then lunch afterwards at Wagner's Pharmacy (lunch is limited to 25-30 people). The tour is \$17 which includes a viewing of "The Greatest Race," (a 360 degree 18 minute film), tour of two floors of exhibits, and access to resident horses at the stable.

Payment must be made by **July 5** by check to the church office or <u>via online payment</u> on the church website (**specify Derby Museum tour**). Please RSVP to Kathy Maize by July 5 at 502-384-3372.

## <u>August 13 – Potluck Luncheon at 12:00 Noon with entertainment by Emmanuel Maize and Paul Henderson from the American Songbook repertoire</u>

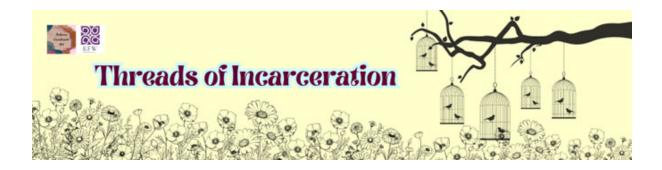
Shredded pork taco bar. Sort school supplies we will collect through July.

#### 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



The Anti-Racism Team will host local artist Rebecca Cavalcante and her **Threads of Incarceration Workshop on Sunday**, **July 14** from 2:00-4:00 PM in the 4th/5th grade classroom area. Due to our space limitations, the workshop is limited to 30 attendees. Please RSVP and send questions to <u>Missy Smith</u> by Wednesday, July 10.

<u>Threads of Incarceration</u> is a community art project connecting and visualizing the threads of impact of incarceration on Kentucky families, led by artist Rebecca Cavalcante. Through art workshops, an online survey, and research, this project will culminate in a digital zine and a

large-scale community art piece juxtaposing the beauty of nature with the starkness of data to visualize the impact of incarceration on Kentucky families. This project is funded by the Kentucky Foundation for Women's 2023 Art Meets Activism grant.





#### **Workshop Details:**

• **Duration**: 1.5 - 2 hours

• **Goal:** Using artmaking to create a space of connection and discussion around how incarceration impacts Kentuckians.

#### Agenda:

- 30 minutes: Introducing the project and artists involved. A short introduction into incarceration data. Demonstration of artmaking.
- 1 hour 10 minutes: Artmaking time, participants will be encouraged to engage with one another
- 20 minutes: Closing, let folks share what this experience was like, give details about the future of the project and how to stay connected.
- Art: We will be making flowers out of pipe cleaners and paper. All supplies will be provided, all flowers will be included in a final large scale project that will go on exhibit this summer and will be donated somewhere local (not sold). The final piece will be a large scale version of the branch pictured below. The branch contains strings that answer the question "have you a loved one, or a close friend been incarcerated? Yes Pink, No Teal." The final piece will contain all strings collected on smaller branches over the last year and will remain interactive as it is on exhibit. The flowers made in workshops will adorn the chains/rope that holds the branch. All participants will be named with the final piece.



#### **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

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**



## **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 <u>reach out</u> 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:

- 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 first 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 bring 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



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.



Senior Adult Luncheon aboard the Mary Miller Riverboat (12:00 PM)
PassportKids (Berea)
Youth Passport Missions (Berea)
Children's Discovery Camp (HBC)
Young Adult Lunch (following Worship)
Party with your Pastors (Purtlebaugh House, 4:00-5:30 PM)
Senior Adult tour of the Kentucky Derby Museum
Senior Adult Luncheon with Emmanuel Maize and Paul Henderson (12:00 Noon)
Gather 'Round Sunday

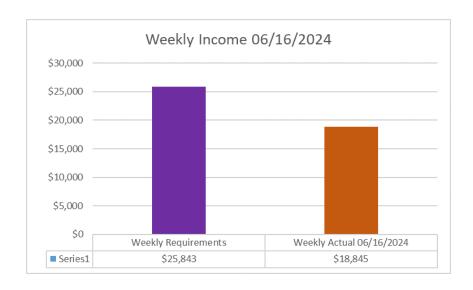
#### **Sunday, 11:15 AM**

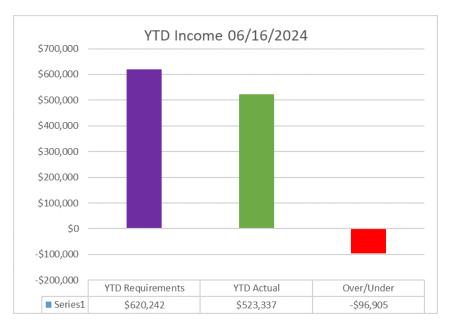
https://www.facebook.com/hbclouisville.org https://www.youtube.com/@highlandbaptist

Friday, 7:00 PM <a href="https://www.facebook.com/hbclouisville.org">https://www.facebook.com/hbclouisville.org</a>



## **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.

- Dayshaun Jarrett, 19, killed June 2
- Sam Kamara, 16, killed June 8

### **Thank You!**

Greg Spalding would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, visits, and for all the love and care he was shown during his recent hospitalization and recovery.









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