



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church August 27, 2024

We are THRILLED to return to our Sunday morning schedule starting this week, September 1! We will gather for worship at 8:45 and 11:15 AM in the sanctuary with Bible Study classes meeting at 10:00 AM in their original locations. Praise God from whom our A.C. flows! Please note that this does not mean that the renovation project is fully complete, as more behind-the-scenes work needs to be done to fully install the system. We hope to celebrate the completion of the project by the end of the fall.

Engaging with the Liturgies of Cole Arthur Riley

***"Liturgy comes awake in the arms of the collective. This is my invitation.
We get free together." ~ Cole Arthur Riley***

Have there been occasions when you wanted to participate in liturgy that has not yet been written? What does it mean for us, as a primarily white congregation, to think together about Black Liturgies? How can we find healing and empowerment from the spiritual practices offered in this beautifully written work?



In her latest book, *Black Liturgies: Prayers, Poems, and Meditations for Staying Human*, bestselling author Cole Arthur Riley explores the sacred, often communal experience of liturgy, including breath prayers, poetry, letters, confession, benediction, and more. For the next three Wednesday nights, we will come together to consider these compelling questions!

- **August 28** - This will be an *embodied liturgy experience* led by David Tribble and Noelle Tennis Gulden.
 - **September 4** - Using quotes and examples from the book, Erin Phelps and Vicki Runnion will *lead a discussion about the communal concept of liturgy* and what it means for us to engage with black liturgy specifically.
 - **September 11** - Join Abbi Wolfe, Brooke Hasl, and Sally Evans for a *collective liturgical writing experience* with a white, anti-racist focus as an act of solidarity and liberation.
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Following our 11:15 AM worship on Sunday, September 8, the congregation will finally celebrate our traditional “Gather Round” day. With the dog days of summer nearing an end and a new fall rhythm in full swing, we will enjoy picnic lunches and games on the lawn. The cost is \$7 per person with a \$21 family maximum.

Please use [this link](#) to sign up or call the church office at 502-451-3735 by September 1 to let us know if you're planning to attend. Lunch will include sandwiches, chips, grapes, and cookies. Please specify if vegan, vegetarian, or gluten free options are needed. When you sign up using the link, you will have the option of paying online through our website.

Along with lunch, there will be lawn and outdoor games set up for all to play as we gather round and fellowship together. The playground will also be open for our younger friends. Be sure to bring

some lawn chairs or blankets for sitting outside!

We hope you will come Gather Round with us on September 8!

~ Your Church Staff



Thank You, Sharon and Welcome, Joseph!

As we have been reminded, it is hard to believe that for the second time in less than a year, we are saying thank you to Sharon Sanders for playing the organ and piano at Highland! Our church is so blessed to have someone like Sharon who can step up to fill a very niche position with little notice. Not only are we enriched by her musical gifts, but by her quiet and steady ministry of caring for

people. Please continue to share your love and gratitude to her for every way she has blessed you through her worship leadership or one of her beautiful acts of care. We love you Sharon!



We are glad to welcome Joseph Parr as our new Organist and Music Associate. Joseph completed his undergrad degree in organ performance at Stetson University in Florida, studying under Dr. Boyd Jones, formerly a professor at Southern Seminary. He is beginning his graduate work at Indiana University where he will pursue a Master of Music in Organ Performance as well as a Master of Music in Sacred Music. Joseph will first be with us in choir rehearsal Wednesday, August 28, and his first Sunday will be September 1. Welcome to Highland, Joseph!



Reservoirs of Faith

This weekend was full of events to thank, affirm, and equip our deacons at Highland. Every time I am with our deacons, I am reminded that they are the heartbeat of our community of faith. They

help me keep a “pulse check” on the life of the congregation, and they give of themselves in such beautiful and selfless ways to care for the family of God in this place.



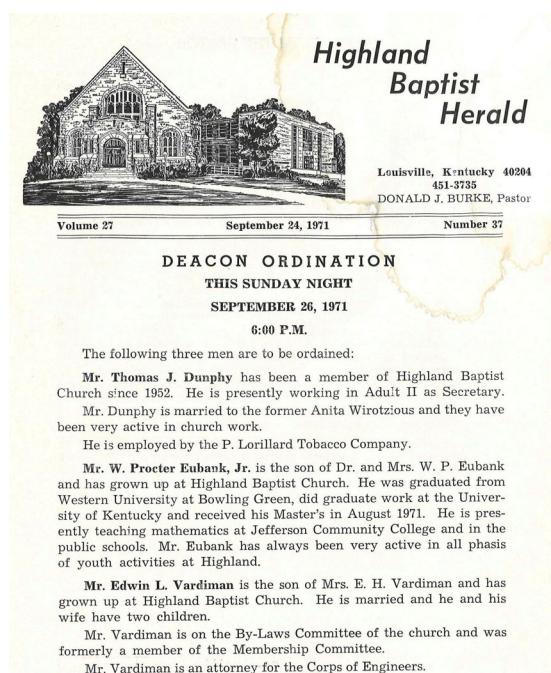
On Saturday, our incoming and returning deacons gathered at Robin and Buddy Lee’s house. Our time was rich with sharing stories, building stronger connections, receiving from the deep well of Bob Cunningham’s pastoral wisdom, and preparing ourselves, both logistically and spiritually, for the year ahead.



On Sunday, we ordained Kelly Garrett, Noelle Tennis Gulden, Bonnie Lindsay, Corey Moran, Genene Nisbet, Charlie Suer, and David Swim to deacon ministry, and we installed Gene Streible, Roy Fuller, Greg Bunton, and Bruce Carroll to another term of deacon service. I shared with them about the book *The Giving Tree*, which tells a story about a tree who gives and gives of herself until she has nothing but a tree stump left. I suggested that a better model of service for all of us is what Bernard of Clairvaux, a 12th century monk, once pointed out. He said that some of us spend our lives like “channels” and others like “reservoirs.” “If you are wise,” he said, “you will be reservoirs and not channels. The channels let water flow away, and do not retain a drop. But the

reservoir is first filled, and then, without emptying itself, pours out of its overflow. How many there are who are devoted to works, who are never anything but channels, but remain dry while trying to pass on life-giving grace to souls! We have far too many channels in the Church today, and far too few reservoirs."

We took time to acknowledge one of the overflowing reservoirs of faith among us, Procter Eubank, and affirmed him as an Honor Deacon at Highland. Procter has served from such a deep well of love for Highland, having been here since he was two years old! He has served eight terms as a deacon, his first in 1971 (see bulletin photo below), and twice as a Chair of Deacons. We are ever-grateful for Procter and Joey and the ways they both selflessly pour out their overflow for the sake of others.



To our outgoing deacons, Kim Clark, Libby Cunningham, Kim Fritschi, Walter Hargrove, Robert Kahne, Kathey Golightly Sanders, Allison Todd, and Marilyn Whisler, I don't want this weekend to pass by without thanking you for your servant leadership over the past three years. We ordained and installed you in the midst of COVID - with masks on, being careful not to get "too close" during the laying on of hands. You have served in such significant ways in the midst of joys and griefs, congregational transitions, and brave new beginnings. Highland is the beautiful community of faith that we are because of people like each of you. And to Tyler Swim, our outgoing Chair of Deacons: you have brought such faithful dedication to our shared work, grounded in your deep love for the family of God in this place. Thank you for your servant leadership and all the ways you have guided us.

Thanks be to God for all of these deep reservoirs of faith, service, and love among us. May we learn from, give to, and receive from these deacons as we journey in faith together.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners



Meal costs are \$10 per person, \$5 for children, with a maximum of \$25 per family. We encourage you to take advantage of this great opportunity for intergenerational fellowship! We also welcome volunteers to assist with food prep and setup, making desserts, or cleanup. **Contact [Kathy Belcher](#) if you can help or want more information.**

It is important that we have accurate numbers of folks who plan to attend each week. Please make your reservations by Monday at 12:00 Noon for that week's meal. You can either make standing reservations or make them weekly by emailing [Kathleen Gordon](#) or calling her at the church office, 502-451-3735.

August Menu:

August 28: Fried Chicken / Baked Chicken / Mashed Potatoes / Green Beans / Mixed Green Salad / Hawaiian Rolls / Dessert / Coffee, Tea, Milk, and Water

September Menus:

September 4: BBQ Pork w/ small & large buns / Baked Beans / Cole Slaw / Potato Salad / Dessert / Coffee, Tea, Milk, and Water

Reflection from Charlie Suer about Volunteering with Youth

“During the first week of July, at the age of 36, I attended my first Passport Youth Camp. I attended various camps during my own teen years, but only one was religious (it was very Catholic). As a result, I knew I would be going in not knowing what to expect. I guessed there would be energetic counselors and silly song-and-dance numbers (I was right), but there were also meaningful mission projects, a clear and well-executed theological theme for the week, and most importantly to me, a chance to get to know some of the amazing teens who spend their time learning with Justin and the rest of the Highland community.

Y'all, the youth in the HBC youth program are awesome. I learned so much about these students: Quinn is a hard worker, Abby is friendly, Ainsley is exuberant, Eli leads by example, and so many more; siblings love and care for each other, even if they don't want to be caught hugging on camera (Brady and Eliza); and all these wonderful, diverse, unique individuals came together to form a cohesive, inclusive, and loving group who proudly represented Highland Baptist Church. I am proud to have been with them for this experience. So, anytime you get the chance, try to get to know the Highland youth. You'll be glad you did.” ~ *Charlie Suer*



Highland family, as the school year is back in full swing, the youth ministry needs some volunteers for this school year! There are several ways you can volunteer to help out this school year.

1. Sign up to feed our youth! You, your Bible Study class, or a group of friends can sign up to bring breakfast or lunch for our youth. Click the link below to sign up.
2. Wednesday Night Volunteers - Come hang out with our youth on Wednesday nights! We need at least 2 adults in the room on Wednesday evenings. This is a great way to get to know our youth and be present with them. There is a volunteer application to fill out along with a background check. You can sign up below.
3. Chaperone events and retreats! Be like Charlie and take the leap to say YES! We have several events throughout the year that need adult chaperones. If you are interested, [email me!](#)
4. THE BIGGEST ASK! This fall, we are doing what is called DNOW. This is an intentional weekend retreat here in Louisville as we explore our mission partnerships and learn more about our faith. WE NEED HOST HOMES for our youth. We need at least 2 MORE HOMES to host our youth on Nov. 8-10. If you want more info and are interested in hosting, please [email me!](#)

Thank you for considering the ways you can volunteer with our youth!

~ Justin Sizemore

Sign Up to Volunteer Here

SENIOR ADULT SPONSORED RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 26, 2024
9:30 AM-3:30 PM

**Living Beautifully with
Uncertainty and Change:
Pema Chödrön and
the 3 Commitments**



Pema Chödrön, an 87-year-old American Buddhist nun, lives and teaches in Nova Scotia. She wonders, “How can we relax and have a genuine, passionate relationship with the fundamental uncertainty, the groundlessness, of being human?...Discomfort arises from all of our efforts to put ground under our feet, to realize our dream of constant okayness...When we embrace the groundlessness of our situation and relax into its dynamic quality, that’s called awakening to our true nature, to our fundamental goodness.”

Retreat attendees will look to Pema Chödrön’s teaching about the three commitments that lead to a deep experience of freedom. We will also consider a few Christian theologians who affirm our groundedness in God. Join us on this experience of collective wondering, tangible practice, and mutual efforts to embrace human groundlessness while loving a grounded God.



Rev. Dr. Lauren Jones Mayfield and Rev. Dr. Tyler D. Mayfield will co-lead the retreat. Lauren serves as the Interim Director of Field Education at Louisville Seminary, where Tyler also works as the Interim Dean and Professor of Old Testament.

We will meet at the Copperfield Subdivision Clubhouse, 406 Wickfield Drive. The cost is \$35, which includes lunch. Call the church at 502-451-3735 or email [Paul Henderson](#) to SIGN UP BY SEPTEMBER 18 and let him know if you'd like a copy of Chödrön's book.



Messengers Class Reaches Out



The Messengers Bible Study class prepared bags in class on Sunday to have in their cars to pass out as they go about their days and have the opportunity to bless others in our community!



[Click here to sign up!](#)

Lois Anderson Celebrates 100th Birthday!

Lois Anderson will celebrate her 100th birthday on September 12. Lois, along with her daughter , Linda Gray, and Mitch and Eva, have moved to Stanford, KY. (for those of you newer to HBC, Linda is the creator of most of our beautiful Sanctuary banners)

If you would like to send Lois a birthday card, please bring it to church by Wednesday, September 4 and give it to Kathy Belcher, Margie Brown, Cheryl Priddy, or another member of the Jean Janes

Global Missions group. We will deliver the cards on the group's 'field trip' to Stanford of Saturday, Sept. 7 to celebrate this birthday. If you prefer to mail the card, [contact Margie](#) for their address.



Sept. 8	Gather Round Sunday
Sept. 14	Louisville Pride
Sept. 15	Cole Arthur Riley visits Highland on Sunday Evening, 6:00 PM (registration required)
Sept. 26	Senior Adult Sponsored Retreat, Copperfield Sub. Clubhouse, 9:30 AM-3:30 PM
October 4-6	"Unstructured" Women's Retreat - contact Ginger Miller if interested.

Sunday, 10:15 AM

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

<https://www.youtube.com/@highlandbaptist>

Friday, 7:00 PM

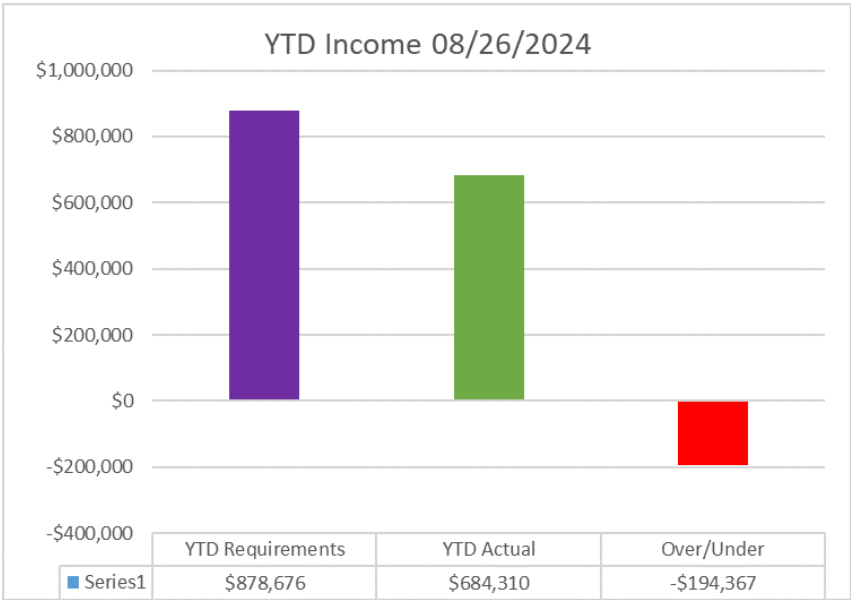
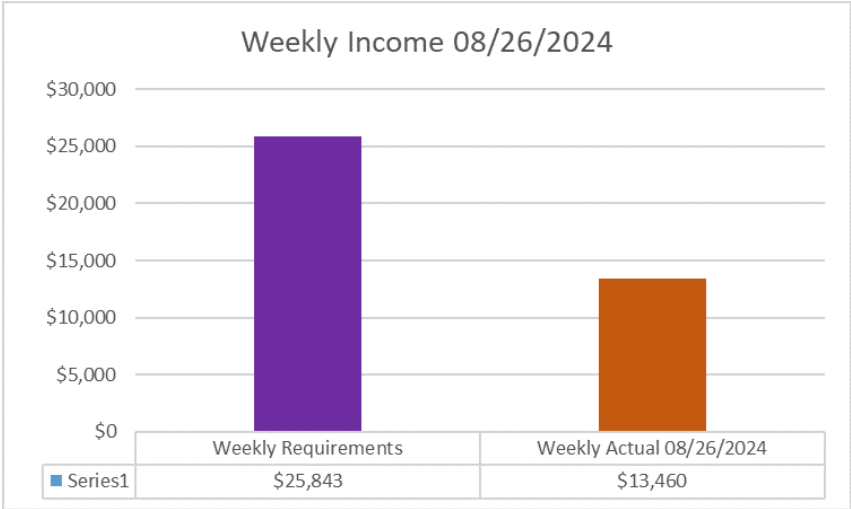
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**Streaming
Worship
Links**



Click Here for Church Signup 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.

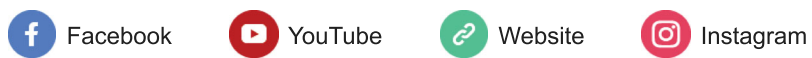




Louisville Homicides

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.

- Michael Bachelor, 20, killed August 11
 - Montay Wade, 29, killed August 11
 - Yailin Casales Espinel, 34, killed August 16
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