



**HIGHLAND
BAPTIST CHURCH**

*A thinking, feeling, healing
community of faith*



**The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church
March 4, 2025**

**Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday.
Don't forget to move your clocks ahead one hour!**



Bread of Life: Gather. Savor. Share.

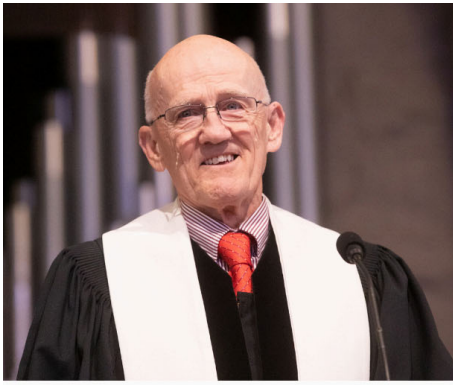


Church, you are invited to join us on our Lenten journey, ***Bread of Life: Gather. Savor. Share.***

Nourish your soul with the *Bread of Life*. When the world feels heavy—divided and uncertain—hearts ache, minds seek peace, and souls hunger for hope. In these moments, while many search for a way forward, the bread of life reminds us of abundance. There is enough love, grace, and hope for all.

We begin the season of Lent with a service tomorrow on Ash Wednesday at 6:15 PM in the sanctuary. We will gather for a time of prayer, reflection, music, and the imposition of ashes. There will be childcare for infants, toddlers, and two's. Carol Choir will meet for our preschool children (3s, 4s, and PreK). Kindergarten-5th grade, children, and youth will participate with us in this family-friendly service.

~ Paul Henderson



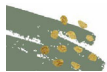
Around Highland
March 2, 2025



Interim Pastor Job Posting - Now Accepting Applications

The Interim Pastor job description has been finalized, and the search is officially underway! The Pastoral Interim Search Committee is now accepting applications for the Interim Pastor position through **March 15, 2025**.

If you or someone you know would be a great fit for this important role, we encourage you to apply or share this opportunity. More details and the [job description can be found here](#).



Pastor Search Committee Nominations Begin

Please take some time to nominate people for the Pastor Search Committee. We are hoping to have a wide range of demographics represented from the church body. You may nominate members, including yourself. This nomination form will be available for the next two weeks, in both [digital format here](#) and paper format at the Sunday services, March 9 and 16. The nominations will close on Wednesday, March 19 at 5:00 pm. Please use **one form per person you nominate**, in either the paper and digital format.



On Sunday, Highland celebrated Jerre Bassett's 30 years of service and Kathleen Gordon's 5 years of service with a reception honoring them!

Highlights Class for Visitors and New Members on March 16

If you are new to Highland, whether through membership or visiting, please join us on Sunday, March 16 from 12:30-3:00 PM for our Highlights Class in the Fellowship Hall. This brief tutorial provides lunch and space to meet with fellow newcomers, as well as long-time congregants.

We will hear from one another what brings us to this wonderful and unique community of faith, and we will learn a bit more about what it means to be a progressive Baptist. Attending the Highlights Class is also a requirement for membership here at Highland. If you are able to join us, [please RSVP to Cheryl Davis](#) as soon as possible. Childcare will be available with a reservation.

Help Us Build a House with Habitat for Humanity



On March 20, 21, and 22, Highland is partnering with other Baptist churches to build a home as part of Habitat for Humanity Baptist Build. We are looking for three to four volunteers on each day. For more information, [contact Larry Hoover here](#).



Strategic Planning Committee Update

We are excited about moving ahead with our Strategic Planning with the assistance of Casey Boggs of Reputation US and Michael Cheuk with the Center for Congregational Health. Over the coming weeks, our congregation and community will be called upon to participate in the reputation assessment. Your collective perspectives and your voices are important as we respond to the present and plan for the future of HBC.

Reputation Assessment & Plan

Highland Baptist Church (HBC) is currently undergoing one of the church's most transformative eras in its history. With a search for a new pastor and an everchanging cultural and political landscape, HBC is seeking clarity for a path forward. With the gift of his time and his team, HBC Member Casey Boggs, a specialist in public relations and reputation management, will lead HBC through a three-phased approach over the next few months to understand, enhance, and advance its reputation for key audiences and communities. This work will be done along-side and in collaboration with the strategic planning work being done with the Center for Congregational Health.

Goals of the Reputation Assessment:

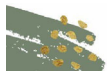
- Solidifying and validating past and current perceptions of HBC inside and outside HBC.
- Confirming HBC's mission and core values are relevant, resonating, and aligning with congregation and public.
- Validating or disqualifying any existing presumptions.
- Crystalizing HBC's messaging internally and externally.

Our Three-Phased Approach:

1. **Assess** HBC's internal (e.g., staff, congregation, members, prospective members) and external (e.g., local communities, other churches, media/social media) reputation,
2. Develop a **strategic plan** to enhance and advance HBC's reputation and
3. **Support** strategies outlined in the plan.

Thank you in advance for helping with this important process!

~ Carolyn King



Upcoming Sunday Proclaimers

- March 9:** Erin Phelps, Former Intern
- March 16:** Dr. Lewis Brogdon
- March 23:** Renee Purtlebaugh
- March 30:** Kathryn House



Register Now for Highland's Summer Camps for Children



We already look forward to summer sunshine as well as learning and growing together in community! Each summer, Highland provides overnight and day camp experiences for children who have completed Kindergarten-5th grade. This year's options are PassportKids, Discovery Camp, and Advocacy Camp. Registration is open and will remain so until each camp reaches capacity. Links to register can be found in the graphic above, in our Family Ministry Happenings e-newsletter and via our private Facebook group and Instagram, or by using the QR code below. Need to sign up for the newsletter or one of these social groups? Do so by emailing [Megan Fuller](#) or [Renee Purtlebaugh](#).



The Empathic God: A Book Presentation and Discussion in Three Parts - *Continues Next Week*

Frank Woggon's book *The Empathic God: A Clinical Theology of At-onement* (Fortress Press, 2024) constructs a reinterpretation of the Christian narrative of salvation from the clinical perspective of a spiritual care practitioner, utilizing case studies and interdisciplinary dialogue to suggest a faithful Christian practice of participating in God's ongoing work of salvation. Join Frank Woggon as he discusses the argument and central themes of his book in two remaining sessions:

March 12: Shame, Empathy, and the Human Condition

March 19: Practicing At-onement: How the Empathic God-event Calls Upon Us



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!

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](mailto:Kathleen.Gordon@church.org) or calling her at the church office, 502-451-3735.

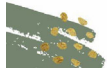
March Menus:

March 5: Taco Bar, Beans, Mexican Street Corn, Chips, Salsa, Guacamole, Dessert

March 12: Baked Ziti, Salad, Bread Sticks, Dessert

March 19: Fried & Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Salas, Rolls, Dessert

March 26: Soup, Salad, Cornbread, Dessert



Update on Fairness Rally

Our friends at the Fairness Campaign have rescheduled their annual “KY Fairness Rally” to Tuesday, March 11 starting at 1:30 PM. The rally will take place in the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort. The True Colors Ministry Group would like to invite folk to join us as we rally for our LGBTQIA+ siblings. This is such an important time to show up and show out as an inclusive, loving, and safe faith community. Please consider joining us as we put our faith into action by showing up for those we love!

If you are interested in going, please let [Justin Sizemore](#) or Kim Clark-Endicott know ASAP! Also, please go to <https://www.fairness.org/rally/> and let the Fairness Campaign know you are coming as well!

There will be lobbying opportunities that morning. If you have never lobbied or met with your elected officials, this is a great way to do that. The Fairness Campaign can even help you set up meetings with your representatives!

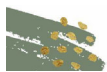
There are several anti-LGBTQIA+ bills floating around this session and we need to show up and let our voices be heard. I hope you will join us for this important work!

~ Justin Sizemore



Jean Janes Yard Sale March 15

The long-delayed yard sale will be held Saturday, March 15, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Please bring your items to HBC until Wednesday, March 12. Place them in the hallway going back to the Fireside Room.



Cream of the Crop Potluck Luncheon on March 19



Bring a side dish to share and join a great group of senior adults for a potluck luncheon on Wednesday, March 19 at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall! We will enjoy good food and fellowship, board games, and some Mardi Gras fun with Paul Henderson (rescheduled from our February meeting that was cancelled due to weather). Don't miss it!

[Click Here for Church Signup Links](#)

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>

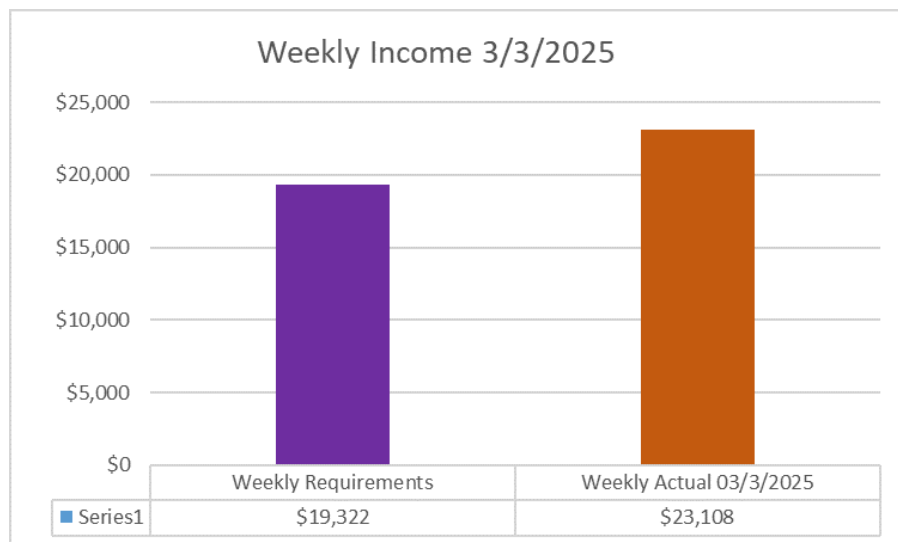
**Streaming
Worship
Links**

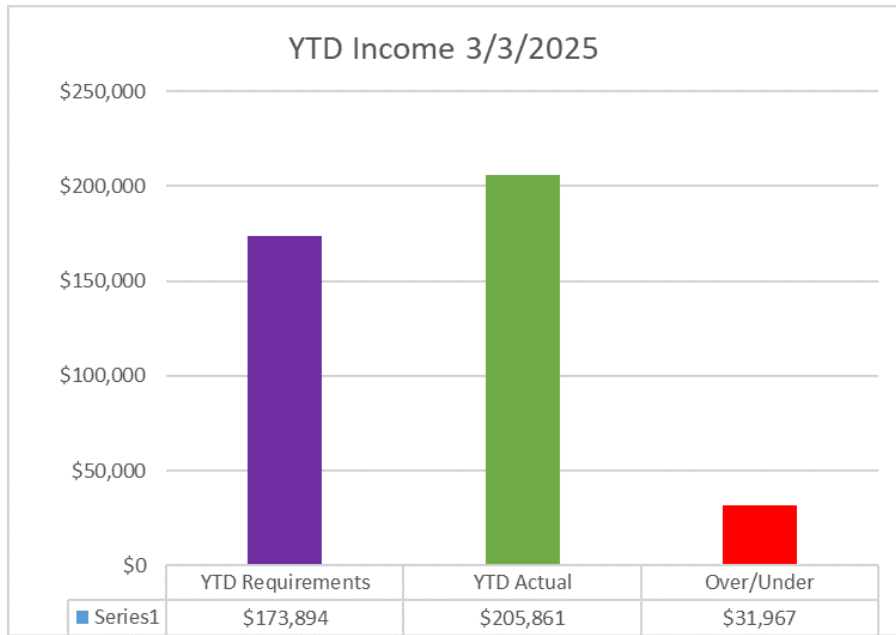


Looking Ahead

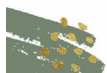
- March 5: Ash Wednesday Service, 6:15 PM, Sanctuary
- March 7-9: Women's Retreat
- March 11: Fairness Rally, 1:30 PM, Frankfort
- March 15: Jean Janes Yard Sale, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM, Fellowship Hall
- March 16: Highlights Class, 12:30-3:00 PM, Fellowship Hall
- March 19: Cream of the Crop Potluck Luncheon, 12:00 Noon, Fellowship Hall

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.**

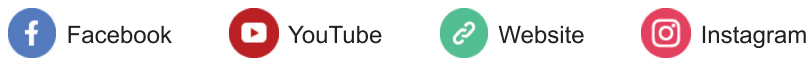


Louisville Homicides

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.

- Jakyree Cross, 14, killed February 8
 - Holly Knight, 48, killed February 9
 - Michael Saye Wehdah, 44, killed February 16
 - Sabrie Johnson, 18, killed February 17
 - Simeon Watson, 19, killed February 17
 - Mia Lee, 18, killed February 17
 - Curtis Brown, 18, killed February 17
 - Samuel Thruston, 43, killed February 18
 - Antwanette Chillers, 33, killed February 21
 - Raysa Pacios Valdez, 29, killed February 21
 - Leslye Harbin, Jr., 18, killed February 21
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