



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church May 28, 2025

 **Join Us This Sunday, June 1!**



"You wanna find a Baptist church that loves everyone? I've got the church for you!"

1. Read this and other comments from the community at large and from Highland members [in this link](#). Casey Boggs from Reputation US (and Highland member) will review the results of HBC's reputation survey during the June 1 conversation.
2. Do you wonder what your staff values about HBC and what their challenges are? The Center for Congregational Health consultant, Michael Cheuk, will report on his interviews of current and former staff at the June 1 meeting. Here is his [summary report](#).
3. The Strategic Planning Committee has been working hard since January to analyze feedback and start to develop priority areas of action. We will continue to build on this document with your input on June 1. [Here is the link](#).

Conversation #2 will be held this Sunday, June 1 in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 -11:00 AM. All are welcome to join in this process. Coffee and sign in begins at 8:45 AM. Child care is available. **Please note there is no 8:45 worship service that day**, but please join us for the 11:15 worship service following the congregational conversation.

All reports will remain available online for you to review.



Pride Month at Highland



Highland Family,

June is right around the corner which means its time to celebrate all things PRIDE! One of the things I love so much about our community here at Highland is that we show up for one another. This Pride month is a chance for us to show up and show our support and love for our LGBTQIA+ community. And there are so many fun and exciting ways for us to show up and celebrate this month!

- **Drag Revival on June 5** – Highland is joining eleven other congregations in sponsoring the Fourth Annual Drag Revival at Highland Community Ministries, 1228 E Breckinridge Street. The Drag Revival is a family friendly, interfaith evening to celebrate the relationship between LGBTQ+ folks and faith. Tickets are free this year, thanks to a generous grant from the Fund for the Arts. [Click here](#) for tickets and more information.
- **Racing Louisville Soccer Game on June 6** – Highland has teamed up with 16 other open and affirming congregations and Racing Louisville FC to reserve 200 seatback tickets in Section 116 for the June 6 match vs. Utah Royals, in celebration of Kentuckiana Pride Night.
- **Pride Sunday on June 15** – We are excited to welcome the Rev. Rachel Small Stokes to the pulpit for Pride Sunday! Rachel is the Pastor at Immanuel UCC here in Louisville. Pastor Rachel brings to a deep spirit, an openness to all, a sense of joy, creativity and humor. She and her wife Les (a native Louisvillian) have two very energetic sons, Jack and Everett. They love being a rainbow family! 🏳️‍🌈
- **Kentuckiana Pride Parade on June 21** – We will once again be marching in the Pride Parade this year! Sign-up for the parade will be available shortly. Please plan to join us for this fun day of celebrating our LGBTQIA+ community! One note, we will NOT have a booth at Pride this year. The True Colors Ministry Group decided to sponsor a Trans group that has wanted a booth at Pride for years and hasn't had the money to be present. This is one of the ways we can show up and support our community!

~ Justin Sizemore

Journaling Group Begins Next Monday




If you are a journaler, or have wanted to be, consider the possibility of sharing some journaling time with others. Vicki Runnion will facilitate a journaling group for four Mondays, beginning on June 2 from 10:00-11:30 AM meeting in room 200 (upstairs above church offices).

A good many people have found that having a location away from home to journal with others can be helpful. Vicki will share some journaling prompts for us to try, and we will have some protected time for our own writing.

If you are interested, please contact Vicki at 502-396-3325 or [email her here](#).

Spring Orchestra Concert



 **Youth Events (in the) Summer!**

YES!

Youth Events
(in the) Summer

6/4

HIKING @ RED RIVER GORGE \$10

6/11

COOKOUT @ SIZEMORE'S HOUSE

6/18

LOU BATS GAME \$10

6/30-7/4

PASSPORT CAMP (FULL!)

7/16

HOLIDAY WORLD

Dates may be added and
subject to change...silly weather!

We have an incredible summer of fun planned for our youth. We are calling our summer the summer of YES! (Youth Events in the Summer!) We will hike, eat tasty food together, watch some baseball, enjoy the best of the summer at PASSPORT, and cap our summer off with a trip to Holiday World.



Join the Fun!

**VOLUNTEER
THIS SUMMER**

**WE NEED ADULTS TO MAKE THESE TRIPS AND EVENTS
HAPPEN!**



We could use some volunteers for all of these upcoming youth events. If you are interested, please [reach out to Justin](#) ASAP. Will it be an amazing summer? YES!

~ Justin Sizemore

Recognizing our College and Other Graduates



Calling all college and other graduates! We want to recognize YOU during the 11:15 AM worship service on Sunday, June 8! If you would like to be recognized during this service, [please contact Justin](#) ASAP! We have several Highland folk to celebrate and we cannot wait to do so!

~ Justin Sizemore

Join the Cream of the Crop in Elizabethtown

Cream of the Crop is headed to the Whistlestop Café in Elizabethtown on June 18! Lunch will be served at 11:00 AM, and we will plan to leave the church at 9:30 AM. Reservations are limited to 25, so call (502-451-3735) or [email Paul](#) to be placed on the list.



~ Paul Henderson

A Journey for Every Season



You are invited to complete a travel interest survey for travel opportunities with Paul and Kim Henderson, which can be found by [following the link here](#). The list will be available for a month and then an in-person session will be held in August to share some of the most popular suggestions.

- Offering both international journeys and regional getaways
- Experiences designed for our progressive community
- Options for various interests, timeframe, and budgets

~ Paul Henderson



Guns to Gardens

Safe-surrender event turns unwanted guns into garden tools

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks..." Isaiah 2:4

All Peoples Unitarian Church
4936 Brownsboro Rd., Louisville, KY 40222

**Sunday
June 8, 2025
2-4 p.m.**

HOW: Anyone can bring unwanted guns. Those bringing guns are anonymous. Each person surrendering one or more guns will receive a \$50 Kroger gift card.

- Guns must be unloaded prior to entering church property and placed in trunk or rear of vehicle. Skilled personnel will remove firearms from vehicles and take them to a chop saw for disabling while the person bringing the gun is present.
- Serial numbers will be recorded to document the gun's destruction.
- Ammunition will not be accepted.
- The gun pieces will be forged into tools, art, or jewelry at a later date.

WHY: Many guns in our community are no longer wanted for a variety of reasons:

- There is concern that the gun might fall unintentionally into the hands of children or grandchildren in the home.
- The gun may have been used in a suicide or accident.
- Someone can no longer handle guns safely because of age or disability.
- A person inherited a gun but does not want it or know how to use it.

WHO: This event is organized by a coalition of individuals from faith and community groups concerned about gun violence in Louisville. It is part of a national Guns to Gardens movement launched in cooperation with [RAWtools](#) and [Presbyterian Peace Fellowship](#).

Guns to Gardens is a step toward reducing gun violence, a path for people to take action to reduce the number of guns in our homes and communities

Cosponsored by the Owsley Brown II Family Foundation

For more information: guns2gardenslouisville@gmail.com or guns2gardenslouisville.org

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**

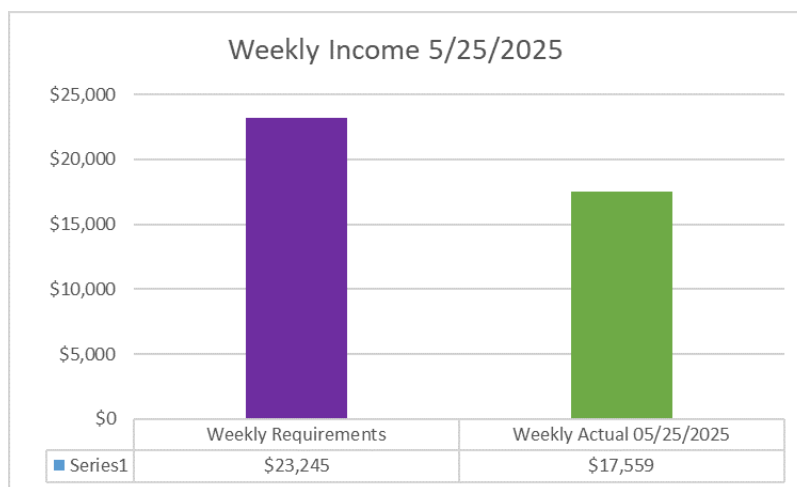


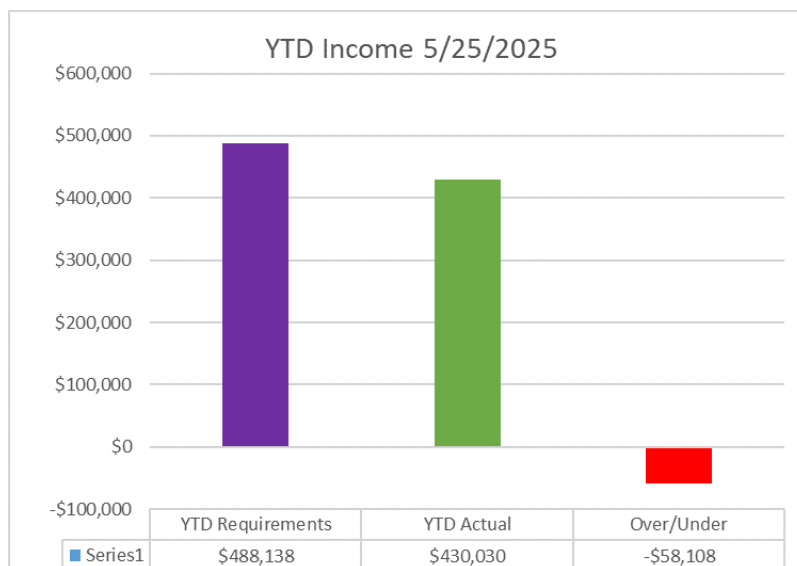
Looking Ahead

- June 1: Congregational Conversation #2 - see article above for details
- June 5: Drag Revival 2025 - Highlands Community Ministries, 7:00-9:00 PM
- June 6: Kentuckiana Louisville Racing Pride Night, 7:30 PM
- June 15: Pride Sunday in worship, 8:45 and 11:15 AM
- June 21: Kentuckiana Pride Parade and Festival
- June 22: Quarterly Church Conference via Zoom, 4:00 PM
- July 12: Trivia Night & Dessert Auction for the Sacred Space Campaign, 7:00 PM - **note new date**
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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.



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