



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church June 17, 2025

Reflection on Pride Sunday

What a joy it was to be in worship this past Sunday for our annual Pride Sunday Worship Service.

I want to say a HUGE thank you to everyone involved in making Pride Sunday happen. Our True Colors Ministry Team, Paul and Joseph for their wonderful planning of music and worship, Rev. Rachel Small-Stokes for saying YES to preaching on Pride Sunday, and another huge thank you to Molly Braun for the beautiful banners and the NEW Pride antependium.

It was a joy to welcome Rev. Rachel Small-Stokes to our pulpit on Sunday. She serves as pastor to Immanuel United Church of Christ here in Louisville. Her sermon was challenging, thoughtful, and had a ton of sparkle.

Rev. Small-Stokes invited us all to imagine a world in which we can sparkle. Even when the world is crazy and makes no sense. Even when we want to hide our true selves out of fear and even danger. Even when everything around us tells us we shouldn't shine, we were reminded to Sparkle!

"Go forth from here with the God that has created you and delights in you...
Go forth and sparkle."

If you haven't had a chance I invite you to read "The Sparkle Creed" that Rev. Rachel wrote below.

Happy Pride, Y'all!



THE SPARKLE CREED

by Rev. Rachel Small Stokes

I believe in the non-binary God whose pronouns are plural.

I believe in Jesus Christ, their child, who wore a fabulous tunic and had two dads, and who saw everyone as a sibling child of God.

I believe in the rainbow Spirit, who shatters our image of one white light and refracts it into a rainbow of gorgeous diversity.

I believe in the church of everyday saints, as numerous, creative, and resilient as patches on the AIDS quilt, whose feet are grounded in mud and whose eyes gaze at the stars in Wonder.

I believe in the calling to each of us, that love is love is love, so beloved, let us love.

I believe, glorious God. Help my unbelief.

Amen.

~ Justin Sizemore



 Celebrating Pride with Our Community



Kentuckiana Pride Parade this Saturday, June 21 – We will once again march in the Pride Parade this year! [Sign-up is available here](#). The parade begins at Noon, we will meet at 11:30 AM. Justin will send out our meeting location to folks who sign up. Please plan to join us for this fun day of celebrating our LGBTQIA+ community!



Quarterly Church Conference this Sunday, June 22

Our next Quarterly Church Conference will be held via Zoom this Sunday, June 22 at 4:00 PM. The agenda, Zoom link, and accompanying documents will be emailed this Friday, June 20. We will hear from the Pastor Search Committee about the job description and will hear updates about the Sacred Space project & funding.



Highland Welcomes New Member



Zivan Holloway Joined June 15, 2025



Help Needed for PASSPORT Youth Camp!



The Youth are heading to PASSPORT Missions down in Berea, KY on June 30th-July 4th. We need some help. WE NEED ONE MORE MALE CHAPERONE TO HELP WITH OUR TRIP! If you can help with this need, please email me (Justin@hbclouisville.org) asap! Thank you!

Gratitude from The Luster Family

Dear Highland Family,

My family and I want to thank everyone who helped make Bill's memorial service so meaningful. Bill would have loved every word spoken and all the music played. I want to thank everyone who sent cards and talked to me about Bill. Memories are precious. The hospitality committee gave us a beautiful reception. We appreciate all the hard work. Bill loved Highland very much.

~ Linda Luster and Family

Cream of The Crop News

Cream of the Crop will be on hiatus in July. We will resume meetings in August. Stay tuned for details regarding our next meeting!

Highland Families with Children



It's camp time! 10 of Highland's children, along with 3 chaperones, left today for Passport Kids Camp in Berea, KY. Please pray for their safe travel and for a forming week of experiencing God in new ways as we explore how lavish God's love is, how to welcome and include others as an expression of God's love, how to act for the well-being of others and ourselves, and how to live our days filled with joy!



 Join Us for Trivia Night on July 12!

Sacred Space
FOR EVERYONE

TRIVIA NIGHT

WITH DESSERT AUCTION

FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2025
7:00 PM

\$15.00 per person, teams of up to 8.
PLEASE PRE-REGISTER AT hbctrivianight@gmail.com

HAVE A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
OR OTHER GROUP TEAM;
BRING YOUR FRIENDS; BRING YOUR TEAM;
COME HAVE FUN.

Contact Steve or Margie Brown with questions;
Contact Marilyn Whistler to donate a dessert.

[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**

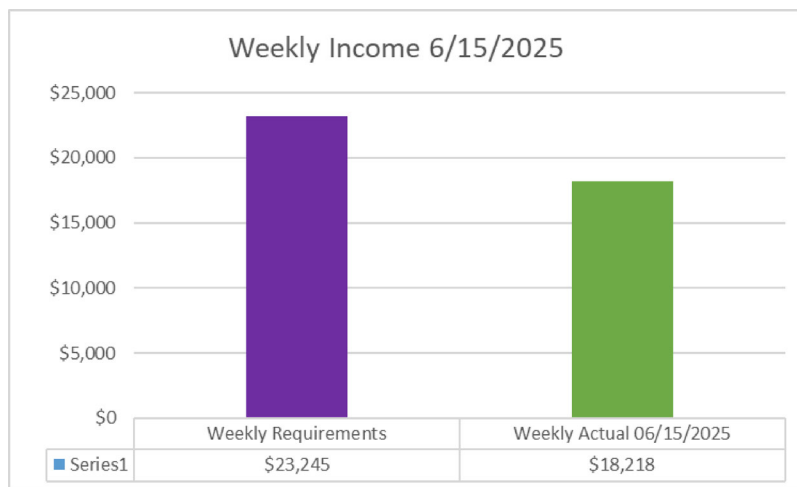


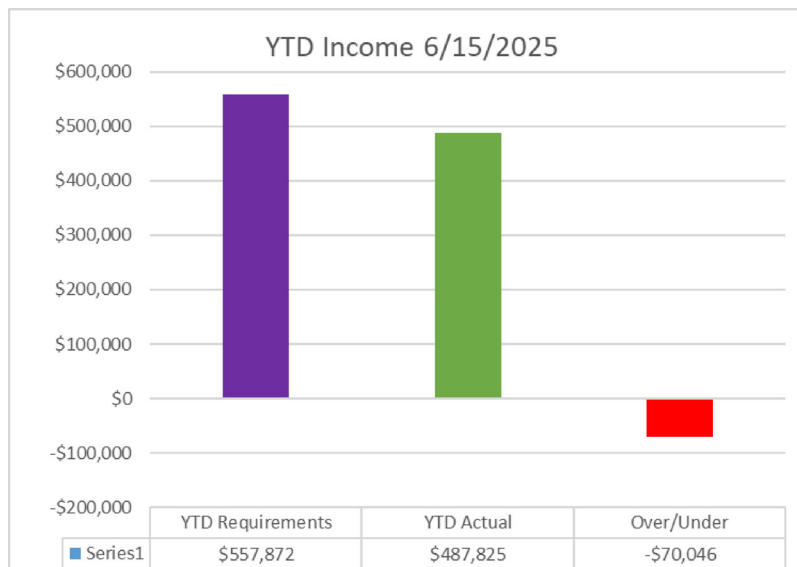
Looking Ahead

- June 18: Cream of the Crop trip to Whistlestop in Glendale, leave church at 9:30 AM
Families with Children: Ice Cream Crawl, Ehrler's (Highlands), 6:30 PM
- 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
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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.

- Paul McMahan, 47, killed May 26
- Rasool Jan, 37, killed May 27

