



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church October 7, 2025

Jim England Concludes Interim with Highland

Dear Highland Community of Faith,



In the 25 plus years that Mary Helen and I have been at Highland, I have served in various interim positions. During this interim period I have been serving as Interim Associate Pastor. Now I am stepping aside for my own personal care. Doing so has not been an easy decision for me but one I believe is best.

I am grateful that I have gotten to work with our interim pastor and our staff. I wish each of you could sit in a staff meeting and see and hear the compassion and wisdom there. You would witness planning and volunteering to take on tasks. You would see a deep love for Highland as well as an active faith in our

future. Being with them has been a privilege.

I am grateful for you, the members of Highland. We share a journey of faith. You have always enriched my life. I look forward to our next steps into this wild wonderful life of faith.

~ Jim England

Dear Highland,

Jim England, who has served Highland through crucial interim transitions, and who has faithfully provided pastoral care during a part of our present interim period, recently informed the church that he needs to step away from his duties on the Highland staff team. We are thankful for all Jim has done, but at the same time we fully support his desire to be faithful in caring for himself and those around him.

Jim's tenure will end in mid-October, and we want you to know our plan for continuing to provide pastoral care within the congregation.

Renee Purtlebaugh will be stepping in to cover most of the pastoral care, along with the help of the deacons and the other members of the ministerial staff. To allow Renee the time she will need to do this, Chris Caldwell will be increasing his hours by one day a week and will be picking up some administrative duties Renee has had working with various ministry groups. Renee's role as Associate Pastor to Children and their Families will not be changing.

Because of the flexibility Chris has to cover pastoral care emergencies that might come up after hours, please contact him if a crisis arises. Chris's mobile number is 502.594.6113. If a need occurs after 10:00 PM, please call rather than texting, because his text notifications are muted through the night.

~ Personnel Ministry Group



Considering Matthew Shepard this Week

Members of Highland's Sanctuary Choir along with members of Voices of Kentuckiana will join forces to present *Considering Matthew Shepard* at Actors Theatre on Friday, October 10 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, October 12 at 3:00 PM.



PRESENTED BY:



The entire three-part oratorio told through poetry, historical accounts, choral and solos singing, is a powerful and compassionate response to the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student from Wyoming, in the fall of 1998. Recommended for teens and above. [Here is the link to order tickets.](#)

~ Paul Henderson



Offering for Global Mission

October is the month in which we collect our Offering for Global Mission. This year's theme is **Embracing Neighbors, Nurturing Hope.**



Theme verse: Colossians 3:12-14

As a Baptist church, Highland has chosen to connect with other like-minded Baptists in the United States and around the world by being a part of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, which you'll hear more about next Sunday. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship works in the US and globally in a variety of ways, and the offering we collect this month helps support that effort by funding the dozens of field personnel who work with CBF.

The word (and maybe even the concept of) “missions” can bring up many images for us - some positive, some negative. I am pleased that old-style paternalistic missions, with assumptions of cultural and theological superiority are not a part of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. CBF fosters true partnerships between themselves and local, national, and international bodies of like-minded believers. Highland supports local and regional CBF field personnel such as Scarlett Jasper. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is Highland's primary denominational affiliation, and this offering is the most significant way we show our support. This year's goal is \$7500.



You may contribute to the Offering for Global Mission by using the QR code on the back of the order of worship, using an offering envelope found in the pews (identifying your contribution as going for Global Mission), or via the [Highland website](#).

~ Roy Fuller



Join Us for Wednesday Night Adult Studies

For our upcoming Wednesday night study series, I am going full professor by providing you the course description I use at Simmons for the topic we will be looking at. Here it is:

This course introduces students to basic concepts of literary analysis, such as plot, character development, etc. After learning these concepts, books, and passages from the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures are interpreted and analyzed theologically. A special emphasis will look at aspects of cultural interpretation and marginalized readers and communities.

If you're wondering about course credit for attending, I'm happy to arrange that in return for your contribution to the interim pastor's discretionary fund. 😊

~ Chris Caldwell



Mission Minded Women Assemble Backpacks

The Mission Minded Women's Group assembled 30 backpacks for unsheltered people in Louisville. The

backpacks will be given out in November and contain helpful and practical items such as toiletries, food, water, Band-Aids, blankets, handwarmers, pens, playing cards, and snacks.



An Opportunity to Serve our Community

Did you know Highland has nearly 20 volunteers who make sure the walls in the Fellowship Hall are set up and torn down each Sunday for our adult Bible study classes? Many have served in this role for years and a few folks have joined the crew in the past couple of years. We currently need five volunteers to fill once-a-month slots, and five who could help once per quarter (on fifth Sundays).



Here's your invitation to join this great group of people whose efforts make it possible for our classes to meet each week! As I mentioned, the commitment to our wall crew only requires one hour each month (or one hour quarterly) and we will gladly provide "on-the-job" training.

[Please send me a note](#) or call me at (502) 451-3735 expressing interest, and I'll be glad to share more information.

~ Cheryl Davis



Fall Night at the Farm



Join us for a fun filled fall night at the Dansby-McClain family farm. Come enjoy a cozy bonfire, an old-fashioned hayride, and fellowship with family and friends. More details to come! If your family plans to attend, please RSVP to [Renee Purtlebaugh](#).



Senior Adult Trip to the Overlook Restaurant

Join us for fellowship and fun as the Senior Adults travel to Leavenworth, Indiana trip to enjoy lunch together at the Overlook Restaurant on Thursday, October 23 at 11:30 AM.



The bus will be available for those who wish to ride and will leave the church at 10:30 AM. Call Paul Henderson at 502-451-3735 or [email him](#) to secure your reservation for the bus and/or restaurant.

Here's a photo from our recent trip to the Brown Barrel in Midway, Kentucky.



Parking Lot Wall Receives a Makeover



Over the summer months a crew of people, spearheaded by Mark Golightly Sanders, worked to scrape, clean, and power wash the wall between the playground and the parking lots. Recently Mark, Larry Davis, and John Pacyga completed the task of repainting the wall. Many thanks to all who worked so hard on this project.

~ Walter McWhorter



Join Us for Wednesday Night Dinners



We hope you can join us for Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners! We ask everyone to make a reservation so that we have an accurate count for meal preparation. **Please make your reservations by Monday at 12:00 Noon for each week's meal.** You can either make standing reservations or make them weekly by emailing [Kathleen Gordon](mailto:Kathleen.Gordon@highlandbaptist.org) or calling her at the church office, 502-451-3735. Meal costs are \$10 per person, \$5 for children, with a maximum of \$25 per family. Dinners can be [paid online here](#), by check, or cash at the door. We encourage you to take advantage of this great opportunity for intergenerational fellowship!

October Menus

October 8: Taco Bar, Black Beans, Mexican Street Corn, Chips, Salsa & Guacamole, Dessert

October 15: Fried Chicken/Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

October 22: BBQ Pork, Mac & Cheese, Baked Beans, Salad, Dessert

October 29: Lasagna, Steamed Vegetables, Salad, Bread Sticks, 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

October 10/12: *Considering Matthew Shepard at Actor's Theatre* (see above information)

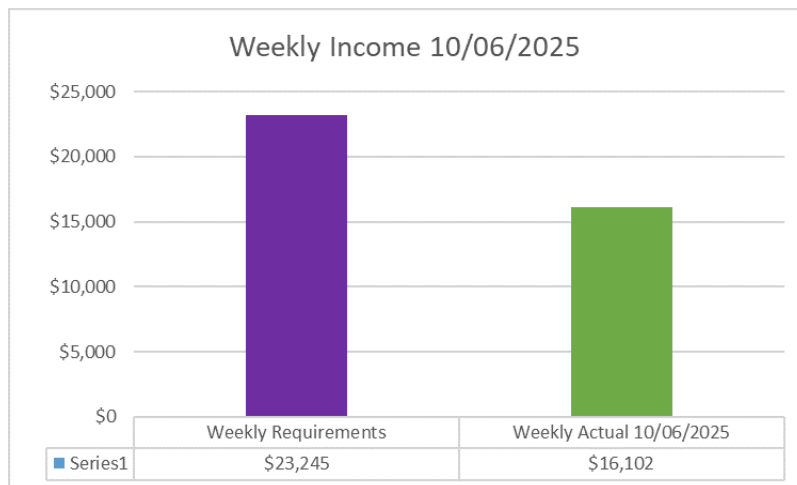
October 10-12: Fall Women's Retreat

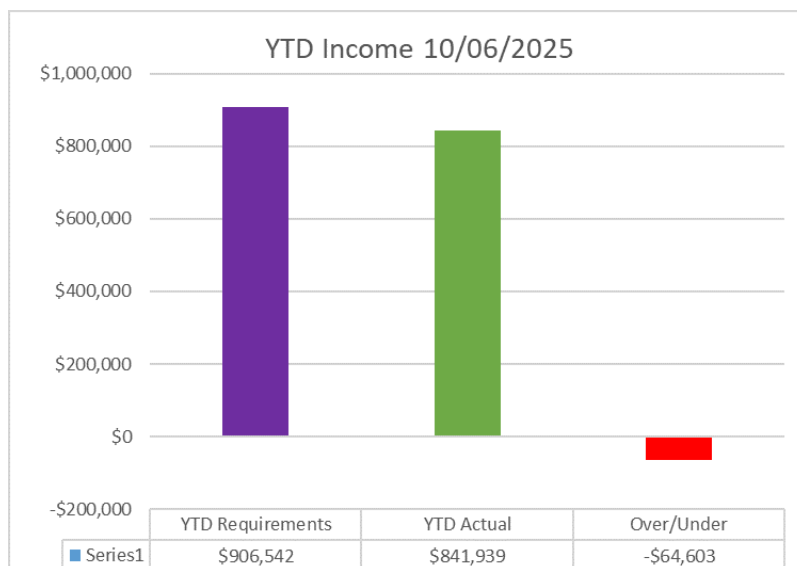
October 18: Fall Night at the Farm, 4:30-7:00 PM

October 23: Senior Adults lunch at the Overlook Restaurant, 11:30 AM



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.



Facebook



YouTube



Website



Instagram

Copyright © 2025 Highland Baptist Church, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).