



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church October 14, 2025

Considering Matthew Shepard

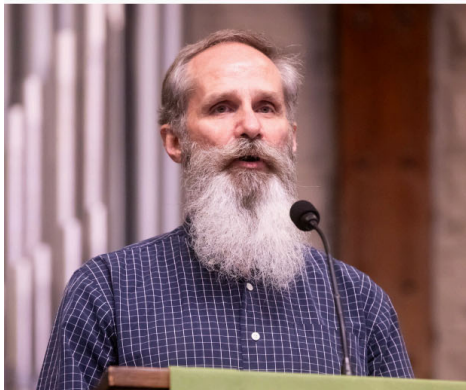
Many thanks to the Sanctuary Choir members who participated in our collaboration with *Voices of Kentuckiana* to present *Considering Matthew Shepherd* at Actors Theatre. Also, gratitude goes to those members from Highland who supported the project with your presence at one of the performances.



For many of our singers it was a milestone production they will never forget. It is a difficult musical journey to process as well as perform, but on the other side now, we can see clearly that it was well worth it. We conquered a challenging work that stretched every one of us, gained beautiful friendships along the way,

and experienced a renewed determination to stand alongside our LGBTQ siblings. Thanks be to God for the curiosity, deep love, and life of Matthew Shepard.

~ Paul Henderson



Highland Welcomes New Members



**Jessa and David Henry joined Highland on October 12, 2025.
They are pictured with their daughter, Willie.**



An Update from the Pastor Search Committee

The pastor search committee is very pleased with the quality of applications for senior pastor of our congregation. The deadline for applications was September 30 and at this time we do not plan to extend this deadline. We have had initial conversations with qualified candidates and are moving forward with second meetings with some. The search committee is so very grateful for your prayers and support.

~ Kathey Golightly Sanders, chair



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**.



The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) has field personnel right here in Louisville. Annette Ellard along with her husband Steve Clark were commissioned by CBF in 2006. Annette and Steve first felt God's call to full-time missions after joining their church in a short-term mission project in Thailand. Over the next few years, they made several trips back to Thailand, visiting Karen villages and learning about Karen people fleeing war in Burma and living in refugee camps.

Just three months after they were commissioned, the US Department of State began a massive resettlement of the Karen and other refugees from Burma to cities across the U.S., including Louisville. Within months, their ministry shifted and they began working to encourage local CBF churches to welcome refugees into their homes, into their churches, and into their lives, just as the Karen in Thailand had welcomed them.

Early on, they realized the ministry must be about building strong relationships, even as they worked to meet basic physical and spiritual needs. Though an ever evolving and expanding ministry of availability and accompaniment, Annette and Steve connect newly arrived refugees to a church home and friendships while providing pastoral care, social work, crisis management and advocacy.

Now having spent years building strong relationships with these Karen, Chin, and Karenni refugees from Burma, Annette and Steve strive to be relentless advocates for them. Annette strives to be the presence of Christ by offering encouragement and comfort in the greatest celebrations and most trying struggles of these refugees' lives.

Given the current crisis here in the US with the refugee and immigrant population, we need more people like Annette who are willing to advocate for them. By contributing to the Global Missions Offering, you are helping Annette and many more CBF Field Personnel be the hands and feet of Christ during this hostile time in our society. I pray that you will be led to support Annette in her ministry here in Louisville and others around the world.



Our goal this year is \$7,500. You may contribute to the Offering for Global Mission by using an offering envelope found in the pews (identifying your contribution as going for Global Mission) or via the [Highland website](#).

~ Denee Walsh



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



Lobby Entryway Work Almost Complete



Work on the waterproofing and new sidewalk outside the Lobby is nearly complete! Last week the concrete was poured, and by this Friday we'll be able to walk on it again. A bit of sealing & caulking remains, but otherwise the area is good to go.

~ Walter McWhorter



Fall Night at the Farm



Join us for a fun filled night at the Dansby-McClain family farm. A hayride, hot dogs roasted on the fire, s'mores, games, all the fall fun! Bring portable camp chairs or blankets to sit on, and a side dish (nut free) to share with the group. Highland will provide the hot dogs, s'mores and drinks. Older siblings are welcome to attend. 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.



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 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

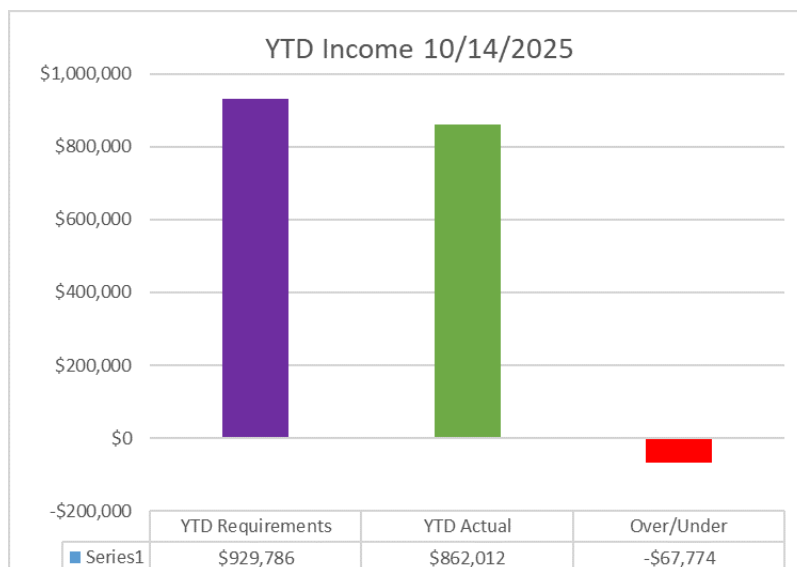
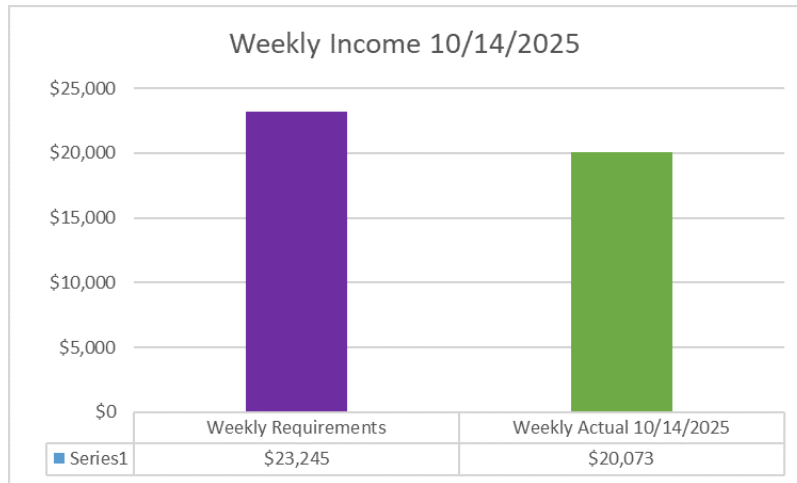


The banner features the text "Looking Ahead" in a large, elegant, cursive script. The text is white with a subtle pink shadow. The background is a dark green, textured surface, possibly representing foliage or a wall. A white, torn-paper-like border frames the top and bottom of the text.

October 18: Fall Night at the Farm for children and their families, 4:30-7:00 PM
 October 23: Senior Adults' lunch at the Overlook Restaurant, 11:30 AM (bus leaves at 10:30)
 November 9: Highlights Lunch and Class for New Members and Visitors, 12:30-3:00 PM



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.

- Ariannas Hernandez Rivera, killed September 14
- Jeromy “Travis” Savage, 40, killed September 20



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