



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

*A thinking, feeling, healing
community of faith*



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church January 6, 2026



Dear Highland Givers,

Great news! Your contributions of \$1,127,083 helped us reach a total income of \$1,198,507 for the year. Our total expenses were \$1,208,722, so thanks to your support, we only fell short by \$10,215. Thank you for your generosity!

The Sacred Space campaign is ongoing, and we will share an update on this in the near future. But today is a day to celebrate your gifts as we close out 2025. We are so grateful to each of you for all the ways you have supported the ministries of Highland!

Sincerely,
The Finance Ministry Group



Kathleen Gordon Resignation

With a full and grateful heart, I want to share with you that I have made the difficult decision to resign from my position as Financial Secretary at Highland Baptist Church. For the past six years, Highland has been far more than a workplace — it has been a spiritual home, a place of deep belonging, and a sacred community through which God has shaped and sustained me. I have grown here not only as a professional, but as a person and a follower of Christ. Serving alongside you and supporting the ministry of this congregation has been one of the greatest gifts of my life, and I give thanks to God for it.



This decision did not come quickly or easily. Through much prayer, reflection, and discernment, I have sought to listen for God's guidance about what is sustainable for my family and for me in the season ahead. Recently, an unexpected opportunity emerged that aligns closely with the direction I sense God calling me toward. Trusting that the Holy Spirit is faithful to lead us — sometimes even when it stretches our hearts — I recognized that I needed to take this next step.

Please know how deeply grateful I am for each of you. Your kindness, generosity, patience, humor, and compassion have been a living witness to God's love. I have seen God at work in this congregation again and again, and it has been a privilege to share in that work with you.

My last office day will be January 22, 2026; however, I will remain available to support the transition through January 29, 2026, as needed. I am committed to finishing year-end work, providing documentation and handoffs, and doing whatever I can to ensure that this ministry continues with strength and care.

Highland will always hold a sacred place in my heart. I carry forward deep gratitude for the ways we have worshiped together, served together, and sought God's justice and love together. I trust that the same God who has been faithful to this church throughout its history will continue to guide and sustain you in the days ahead.

With love, prayers, and deep appreciation,
Kathleen Gordon, Financial Secretary



Children's Choirs Resume This Week. Join Us!



When? Wednesday, January 7

What time? 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Cherub Choir: Walking toddlers – age 3 with a parent.

Music activities 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Childcare provided 6:30-7:15 p.m. by RSVP only.

Carol Choir: 3's – young 5's

Chorister Choir: Kindergarten through Fifth Grade

Fabulous teachers cannot wait to begin a new season of making music together again!

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact:

[Kathy Collier](#), Children's Choir Coordinator



Join Us for Game Night Next Sunday



Highland's Got Talent Sunday, February 22 at 6:00 PM

Next month Highland's Got Talent returns after a six year hiatus, better than ever! Formerly known as HBC Got Skillz, this fundraising event truly emphasizes **FUN** and aims to encourage connection between various groups at Highland including but not limited to new members, not so new members, folks from different services, the young and the young at heart. The winner of Highland's Got Talent will be awarded a trophy and bragging rights for at least a year! And by talent, we mean anything from shadow puppets to bird calls to Sunday School class dance offs.

Highland's *got Talent*

If you or your group would like to take the stage, please complete [THIS SIGN UP FORM](#) by Wednesday, February 11. We ask that you fit all the goodness of your act into 3-5 minutes. Group acts are encouraged! In the coming weeks, stay tuned for upcoming opportunities to volunteer and contribute to

the awesome Chili Dinner. Tickets to attend are \$5 each and the event will take place at Highland Community Ministries, 1228 E. Breckinridge. All proceeds go toward our Capital Campaign. Come to laugh! Come to perform! Stay for the culinary delights!

Questions? Feel free to ask a member of the planning team including Sally Evans, Troy Burden, Emily Edwards, or Kim Fritschi.

Money Collector Needed for Wednesday Night Dinners

We are looking for a volunteer to serve as the money collector for Wednesday night dinners for the spring semester (January–May). This is a great "entry-level" volunteer position for anyone looking to get involved, or for someone who can add another hour of service each week. The time commitment is Wednesdays from 5:00–6:00 pm. Perks include connecting with new or familiar people at this intergenerational gathering—and having a prime seat so close to the dessert table that a sweet treat is always within easy reach. 

Please reach out to [Justin Boldt](#) if interested.

Wednesday Night Dinners Resume Tomorrow



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](#) 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!

January Menu:

January 7: Baked Ziti or Lasagna, Steamed Veggies, Salad, Bread Sticks, Dessert

January 14: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans or Steamed Veggies, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

January 21: Soup, Salad, Cornbread, Dessert

January 28: Mexican Casserole, Steamed Veggies, Salad, Chips & Salsa



Celebrating Erin Phelps and Charlie Suer



The Good Time Gospel Hour Bible study class celebrated the leadership of Erin and Charlie on their last Sunday at Highland.



Greetings from Our Friends in Morocco



THE CEI FAMILY
WISHES YOU
Merry Christmas
Happy New Year 2026

MAY THE NEWS OF CHRIST'S ARRIVAL
FILL YOUR HEARTS WITH JOY!

MAY THIS NEW YEAR BRING YOU
HEALTH, PEACE, HAPPINESS AND LOVE!

*Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to
those on whom his favor rests.*
Luke 2:14

ÉGLISE ÉVANGÉLIQUE AU MAROC
COMITÉ D'ENTRAIDE INTERNATIONALE
Accueillis - Aimés - Accompagnés

“
Dear CEI partners, thank you for
your loyal and supportive
assistance to the most
disadvantaged throughout this
year.

MAY GOD
BLESS YOU!



NATIONAL BOARD CEI

Karen Thomas Smith - Jean Marie Kasongo - Daniel Manariy
-Lydie Hall - Emmanuel Niyokwizigira - Anne-Marie
Teeuwissen - Damaris Kamaté - Daniel Betho Lamah - Elie
Amouzou Koukou



Chicago Spring Tour

Contact [Paul Henderson](#) for complete information and registration availability.

Contact & Registration

Trip Coordinator:

Kim Henderson
Email: kim.henderson@fora.travel
Cell: 225-803-3197

Paul Henderson
paul@hbcLouisville.org
Cell: 225-803-3196

Highland Baptist Church
1101 Cherokee Rd
Louisville, KY 40204



American Gothic, Art Institute of Chicago

Quick Facts

Depart: Sun, Apr 19 at 1 PM (after church)

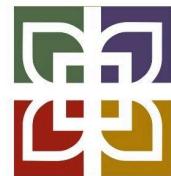
Return: Wed, Apr 22 (5 PM ET)

Hotel: Radisson Blu Aqua
(3 nights)

Transport: Deluxe Motor Coach
(312 Limo)

Includes:

- Daily breakfast
- River Architecture Cruise with Lunch
- Art Institute guided tour
- Frank Lloyd Wright home tour
- 3 Group Dinners (Welcome, Beatrix, Robert's)
- Walking Tour & Pedway Experience
- Taxes, tips & coordination



Highland Baptist Chicago Spring Tour

Art, Architecture & Friendship
in the Heart of Chicago

April 19–22, 2026

Click Here for Church Signup Links

Sunday, 11:15 AM
<https://www.facebook.com/hbclouisville.org>
<https://www.youtube.com/@highlandbaptist>

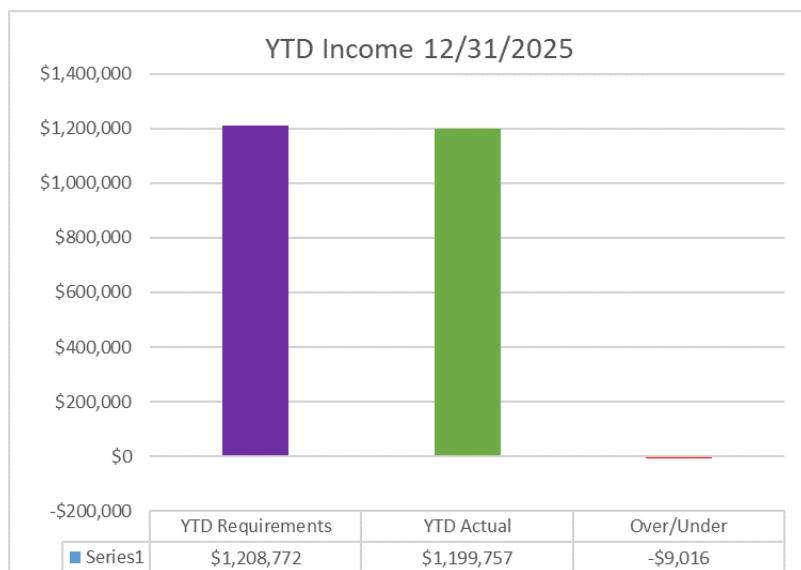
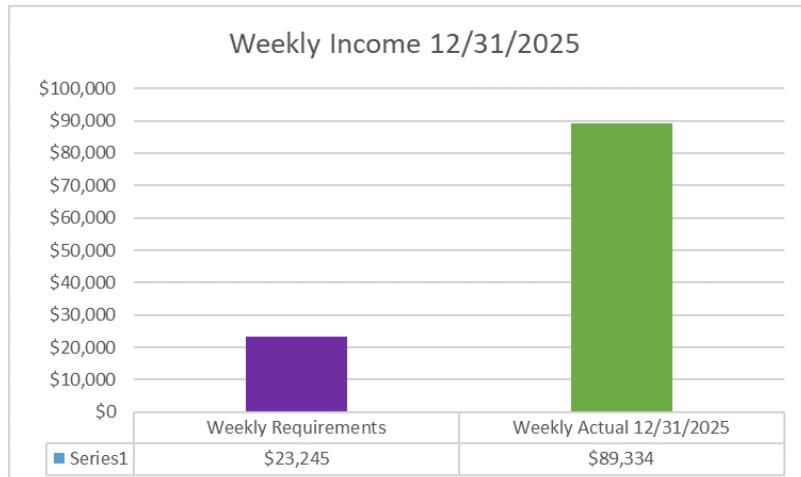
Friday, 7:00 PM
<https://www.facebook.com/hbclouisville.org>

**Streaming
Worship
Links**



January 7: Wednesday Night Dinner and Activities Resume
January 11: Young Adult and Senior Adult Game Night, 5:00-7:00 PM
January 14: Cloud of Witness, 6:00 PM - Angela Dennison, Jan Forren, and Gene Streible
February 18: Ash Wednesday

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.**



Thank You!

It's been six weeks since my knee replacement surgery and I'm so glad to be back at work this week! Much gratitude and appreciation to my amazing co-workers Walter McWhorter, Kathleen Gordon, and Megan Fuller, who picked up my slack during the busy Advent season. So much happens behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly, and they did so with excellence and kindness. Thanks also for the many kind words and loving support from the congregation as I recovered . . . it helped the weeks go by quickly and hopefully!

~ Cheryl Davis, Office Manager



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.

- Ray'Von Kennedy, 22, killed November 26,
- Kalend Hinkle, 25, killed December 13
- Milton Ritchie, 20, killed December 20
- Austin Lee Laslie, 34, killed December 25
- Anthony DeWayne Beals, 53, killed December 27



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