



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church February 3, 2026

Pastor Search Committee Update

The Pastor Search Committee is thrilled to announce that we have selected a final candidate for senior pastor of Highland Baptist Church! Details are being ironed out this week, but the call weekend will be February 26-March 1.

On behalf of all the members of the pastor search committee, thank you for your faithful prayers and your patience with the process. We have been strengthened by those prayers and have sensed God's guidance in each step of this journey. We cannot wait to share all the details with you - stay tuned!

Information on the candidate and a detailed schedule will be included in next week's newsletter.

~ *Kathey Golightly Sanders, Chair*
Pastor Search Committee



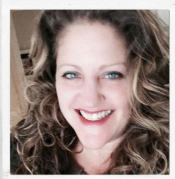
Children's Bible Study and Music Teacher Appreciation in February

February is a month at Highland where we traditionally set aside time to honor and appreciate those who say “yes” to teaching our children each week in our Sunday Bible study hour and Wednesday evening children’s choirs. These folks who nourish the spiritual lives of our children—who engage them in the stories of Jesus and the songs of faith—are a major part of what makes Children and Family Ministry so special at Highland.

This week, we highlight our children's Bible study teachers. As you see these folks around Highland this month, please thank them for the very important role they play in the lives of Highland's kids!

Children's Bible Study Teachers

INFANTS, TODDLERS & TWOS



Amy Farnsley



Vaughn Bell



Jason Baker



Wes Smith

KINDERGARTEN & FIRST GRADE



Brooke Hasl



Kathy Belcher



Bonnie Lindsay



GODLY PLAY: THREES & PRE-KINDERGARTEN



Angela Collins



Megan Fuller



Lauren Blackwell



Katie Metcalf

SECOND & THIRD GRADE FOURTH & FIFTH GRADE



Shanda Cool



John Pacyga



Beth Hedger



Zach Watson

~ Renee Purtlebaugh



Black History Month



This Black History Month, the Anti-Racism Team invites Highland into a season of reflection, learning, and action rooted in values critical to fighting systemic oppression and promoting human rights.

This is sacred work and it invites us to grow as we help make space for justice to flourish. Recognizing that each of us is at a different place in our learning, we are offering tiered opportunities for engagement, from gentle entry points to deeper study and practice. Wherever you begin, we hope you will find an open door to grow in understanding, strengthen our collective witness, and live more fully into the beloved community we are called to build together.

[This link will take you to suggestions for Week 1](#), focusing on the values of listening and truth-telling.

~ Missy Smith



Highland's Lenten Journey Begins Soon

Church, you are invited to join us on our Lenten journey, ***The Work of Imagination*** as we are encouraged to confront the pain of the world, embody faithful resistance, and participate in the holy labor of transformation.



We begin our Lenten journey with a service on **Ash Wednesday** (February 18) at 6:15 PM in the sanctuary. We will gather for a time of prayer, reflection, music, and the imposition of ashes. There will be childcare for infants, toddlers, and two's. Carol Choir will meet for our preschool children (3s, 4s, and PreK). Kindergarten-5th grade, children, and youth will participate with us in this family-friendly service.

~ Paul Henderson



Cream of the Crop Invitation to Drag Bingo

Our Cream of the Crop group invites all adults to join them on Thursday, February 19 at 12:00 Noon in the Fellowship Hall for Drag Bingo! Our special guest is Louisville's own (and Highland's) May O'Nays! We'll have a carry-in luncheon (the main dish, ham, will be provided) and May O'Nays will lead us in five fun-filled games of bingo. May is an amazing entertainer and there will be prizes for the winners, so bring a salad, side, or dessert and join us for a fun afternoon! For our preparation and planning, please let [Paul Henderson](#) know you plan to attend by Monday, February 16. It's a don't miss event!



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

Highland's got Talent

Whether you know every word to a Hamilton song, want to act out a day in the life of your pet, or can do a spot on impersonation of Walter McWhorter, there's a spot for you in the Highland's Got Talent night coming up on Sunday, February 22 from 6:00-8:00 PM. Not a fan of being on stage? Look for our table in the Commons the next two Sundays to sign up to bring food or help volunteer!

Questions? Email [Sally Evans here](#).



Help Highland Build a House with Habitat!



On February 26-28, Highland will partner with other Baptist churches to build a home as part of Habitat for Humanity Baptist Build. We are looking for 2-4 volunteers each day. For more information, contact [Larry Hoover](#).



Jean Janes Yard Sale March 21



This year, the Jean Janes Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday, March 21. As you finish your post-holiday purge or start your spring cleaning, please set aside any household items you would like to donate to the sale. You may begin bringing items to the church on Sunday, March 1. As always, thank you for your generosity and support!

~ Cheryl Priddy

Care Partners Invitation



The Care Partners, who meet every other Saturday, didn't let the ice, snow and frigid temps stop them from meeting, thanks to the wonders of Zoom! If you are dealing with an illness, or are a caregiver for someone who is, contact Doris Hornbuckle at 502-599-2206 for more information about joining this group.



Highland's Summer Camps for Children!

2026 SUMMER CAMPS

June
8-11

Discovery Camp
Completed Grades K-2nd

June
22-25

Passport Kids
Completed Grades 3rd-5th

July
13-16

Advocacy Camp
Completed Grades 3rd-5th

Highland is offering three camps for our kids who will have completed Kindergarten through 5th grade by the time summer rolls around. **Please register by February 15 using the buttons below.**

Discovery Camp

Passport Kids

Advocacy Camp



John Phillip Newell and Cami Twilling to Lead Spirituality Conference in October



Sacred Earth Sacred Soul in New Harmony, Indiana, will sponsor a retreat series October 13-15, led by renowned Scottish author [John Philip Newell](#) and [Cami Twilling](#), director of Earth and Soul. Focusing on Celtic spirituality to reawaken awareness of the sacred in all creation, the sessions will explore reconnecting with nature, healing the earth, and finding divine love within. The conference will explore teachings emphasizing how human beings and the Earth are inherently sacred and drawing from Celtic Christian traditions to foster a more compassionate, sustainable world. The workshops will address the need for spiritual, ecological, and social transformation in modern times.

Registrations are expected to fill up quickly for this retreat set in beautiful and bucolic New Harmony. Click [here](#) to register and for more information.



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 [Accounting](#) or calling 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!

February Menus:

February 4: Fried & Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Seasoned Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

February 11: BBQ Pork, Mac & Cheese, Baked Beans, Salad, Dessert

February 18: Baked Ziti or Lasagna, Steamed Vegetables, Salad, Bread Sticks, Dessert

February 25: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Dessert



A Taste of the Highlands

MARDI GRAS + 21+

A TASTE OF THE HIGHLANDS

1228 E. Breckinridge St

FEBRUARY 17, 2026 | **5:30 - 7:30 PM**

\$60 GEN	BENEFITING	\$75 VIP
Open Bar!	Highlands Community Ministries grow heal play.	Live Music!
Unlimited Food Tastings!		VIP Bourbon Experience!

Sponsored By:

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

- February 18: Ash Wednesday
- February 22: Highland's Got Talent, 6:00 PM, HCM Campus, 1228 E. Breckinridge
- Feb. 26-28: Baptist Build with Habitat for Humanity - contact [Larry Hoover](#)
- Feb. 26-Mar 1: Call Weekend to meet Senior Pastor Candidate
- March 6-8: Spring Women's Retreat - Contact [Ginger Miller](#) for questions or to reserve a spot.
Phone: 502-599-6569
- March 21: Jean Janes Yard Sale in Fellowship Hall
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Financial Reports

This financial summary was presented at the Quarterly Church Conference on January 25 but is shared again here. It shows Highland's 2025 fiscal year income and expenses in broad categories. We were able to close out the year with a small surplus (income over expenses), which was applied to the Sacred Space capital campaign. Thank you for your generous support!

2025 year in review – Financials



Ministries: Facilities (shown separate), Missions & Justice, Technology, Office Support, Youth, Preschool/Children, Music, Finance, Worship, Young Adult, Outreach, Pastoral Care, Hospitality, Food & Beverage, Adult, Faithful Giving, Seniors, Deacons, Friday Church, Leadership Training/Support, New Members, Wedding, Denominational Meetings

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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