



## The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church February 24, 2026

### **Warning about Phishing Emails from Church Staff**

Dear Highland Family,

We've learned that some members of our congregation are receiving spam or "phishing" emails pretending to be from church staff (primarily from Renee). All official communication from church staff will always come from an [@hbclouisville.org](mailto:@hbclouisville.org) email address.

If you receive an email that looks suspicious and especially one asking for money, gift cards, or personal information - do not reply and do not click on any links. Instead, mark the message as spam or junk, and delete it. Highland's staff will never reach out to ask for money or gift cards. If the emails comes from a specific address, please add it to your spam list or blocked senders. When in doubt, always reach out directly to the staff person by using their official church email address listed on our website. It's always better to check before responding. Thank you for helping keep our community safe and connected!

~ Walter McWhorter

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 **This Week's Schedule for Pastor Candidate Meetings**

The Pastor Search Committee is eager for all of Highland's members to meet and talk with Rev. Dr. Carol Harston. Here is the schedule for this week:



- **Thursday, 2/26** at 6:00 PM – True Colors, Anti-Racism Team, Global Partnerships, and Missions & Justice
- **Friday, 2/27** at **4:30 - 6:00 PM** (note change in time) – Virtual meeting, particularly for our homebound members. [Here is the link to join the virtual meeting](#). You may also call in here:

**Dial-In:** 646-931-3860

**Meeting ID:** 843 2550 4472

**Passcode:** 110645

- **Friday, 2/27** at 7:00 PM – Carol will preach at Friday Church and members will vote after the service.
- **Saturday, 2/28**  
10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon – All church, Fellowship Hall  
1:00 – 3:00 PM – All church, Fellowship Hall

Formal introduction and Question & Answers will be in the first hour of each of these sessions.

- **Sunday, 3/1**, 8:45 and 11:15 AM

Rev. Dr. Carol Harston will preach in both morning services. A written vote will be held at the end of each service. Members and voting affiliates (those who have completed two of the three requirements for membership) will be eligible to vote. The votes will be counted and announced at the conclusion of the 11:15 service.

*~ Kathey Golightly Sanders, chair*

*Jess Smith, vice-chair*

*Amy Pacyga, Robert Kahne, Abbi Wolfe, Larry Gray, Diane Brewer*

*Ron Smith, alternate*

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## Voting Protocol for Members and Voting Affiliates for Pastor Candidate

**In-Person Voting** Members and voting affiliates may cast their votes in person during any of the three scheduled worship services:

- **Friday Church**
- **Sunday 8:45 Service**
- **Sunday 11:15 Service**

**Electronic Voting Eligibility** Folks who are traveling, homebound, or in continuing care—and are therefore unable to attend the Sunday services in person—may participate in the vote during the designated "Call Sunday" hours (**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**) via electronic ballot. To qualify for this option, members must:

1. **Attend** at least one in-person or virtual meeting with the candidate during the call week.
2. **Request** to have their vote recorded electronically by providing their email address to a member of the Pastor Search Committee during the in-person or virtual meeting.

Once attendance is verified, the member will be registered for an electronic voting opportunity that will remain open exclusively (via Survey Monkey) during the Sunday service hours.

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## Highland's Lenten Journey Continues



THE WORK OF  
**IMAGINATION**

JOIN US THIS LENT-EASTER

Disruptive Blessings

Second Sunday in Lent  
Highland Baptist Church  
March 1

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## Ash Wednesday

# Ash Wednesday on February 18



## Black History Month

This Black History Month, the Anti-Racism Team has invited 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 4](#), focusing on joy, service, and ongoing commitment.

~ Missy Smith

## Highland's Got Talent Wrap Up

Highland's Got Talent enjoyed a great comeback with performers of all kinds this past Sunday evening! From instructional demos to duets to dance, acts brought people to their feet and money to the voting boxes. Emcee's May O'Nays and Richard Ryan led the joy-filled evening which included lots of Dad jokes, a fabulous transformation of our Associate Pastor of Music and Worship, and homemade chili.



Taking first place was "Harlow Pogo", a synchronized pogo stick routine by Wallace & Findley Harlow! Second place went to a creative and exceptional performance by vocalist Emily Edwards, and Kim Fritsche and Barry Glick took third with their smooth swing tones. Big thanks to everyone including performers and emcee's, volunteers, and of course all the attendees for making it such a successful evening that raised \$1,830.25 for our Capital Campaign!

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## 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](#).

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## Jean Janes Yard Sale March 21



You may begin bringing items to the church this coming Sunday, March 1. Please place your donations along the wall in the lower-level hallway opposite the restrooms. We need to make sure this area remains accessible and the hallway isn't blocked. Wednesday, March 18, is the final day to bring things in. As always, thank you for your generosity, support and cooperation!

~ Cheryl Priddy

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## Drag Bingo

We had lots of fun at Drag Bingo with our very own May O'Nays, sponsored by the Senior Adult Ministry Group.

Our next event is March 9, lunch at The Old Talbott Tavern in Bardstown. Call, text, or [email Paul](mailto:Paul) if you are interested in going!



## 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 25: BBQ Pork, Mac & Cheese, Baked Beans, Salad, Dessert

### **March Menus:**

March 4: Mexican Casserole, Steamed Vegetables, Salad, Chips & Salsa, Dessert

March 11: Soup, Salad, Cornbread, Dessert

March 18: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Veggies, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

March 25: Fried & Baked Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

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## **HCM Lenten Lunch Series**



# Lenten Lunch Series

Theme: Be Still My Soul

Thursdays at Noon during Lent  
Lunch Provided

Feb 19 | Highlands Community Ministries  
Feb 26 | Deer Park Baptist Church  
Mar 5 | Douglass Blvd Christian Church  
Mar 12 | Bardstown Rd Presbyterian  
Mar 19 | Immanuel UCC  
Mar 26 | Unity of Louisville

 Highlands  
Community  
Ministries  
grow. heal. play.

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[Click Here for Church Signup Links](#)

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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

- Feb. 26-28: Baptist Build with Habitat for Humanity - contact [Larry Hoover](#)  
Feb. 26-Mar 1: Call Weekend to meet Senior Pastor Candidate Carol Harston  
March 6-8: Spring Women's Retreat - Contact [Ginger Miller](#) to be added to the wait list.  
Phone: 502-599-6569  
March 10: Roz Heinz Memorial Service, 1:00 PM in the Sanctuary, visitation at 12:00 Noon  
March 21: Jean Janes Yard Sale in Fellowship Hall

## Giving to Highland

Susan Pierce and Lauren Swim have been performing bookkeeping, accounts payable, and payroll activities while we continue our search to fill the Financial Secretary role. If you have any questions regarding your giving or pledge, they can be reached at [accounting@hbclouisville.org](mailto:accounting@hbclouisville.org).

Financial Reports will return to the weekly newsletter soon.

**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.

- Rodney Parker, 26, killed February 2
  - Raydelin Perez-Gonzalez, 33, killed February 6
  - Jashaun Brown, 38, killed February 12
  - Tasean Brown, 18, killed February 16
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