



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church March 3, 2026

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour this Saturday night!

Carol Harston Selected as Highland's Next Pastor



After a week of meaningful conversations, I have few words left, but I offer my grandfather's prayer as we reach the conclusion of the "search process" and prepare for the actual work to begin later this month. Ten days before my maternal grandfather, Roger, died, he offered a prayer, blessing a family breakfast. With its holy brevity, offered so close to his passing, my family has clung to this prayer and cherished it for the past ten years.

"God, thank you." I am filled with gratitude for the love, persistence, and faith shown by Highland's Pastor Search Committee, and I want to express my appreciation for Kathey, Jess, Amy, Larry, Abbi, Robert,

Diane, Ron, and Erin, as well as Highland's staff, for their generous welcome.



"God, be close to us." I look forward to beginning this journey as pastor and people. Until then, I trust that God is close to us, nourishing us and sending us forth to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly among people who are hungry and hurting.

In the meantime, my family will be around, but I'll be at home getting life things squared away so I can walk into the office on Monday, March 23, open and ready to join you in this holy, difficult, and wildly wonderful ministry we will share. Until then, I trust Christ's peace follows you wherever you roam.

~ Carol Harston



A Note from the Pastor Search Committee

There are as many ideas of the perfect pastor as there are members of Highland Baptist Church, and yet we all know there is no such thing as a perfect pastor. For the past 10 months, the search committee has not sought for perfect pastor. Instead, we sought a shepherd, a pastor who would walk at times alongside us, and other times lead the way. A pastor who would first and foremost love us, love the world and want to see the change that only the love of Jesus Christ can bring. A pastor who would equip, engage and support *all of us* to live out the words carved into the very walls of our church, "Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only." The search committee believes wholeheartedly that this person is Rev. Dr. Carol Harston.

We are profoundly grateful for the prayers, the patience and the support of the congregation throughout this journey and we look forward to working with Carol, our pastoral staff and all the members of Highland

Baptist Church as we lean into the love and calling of God to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

~ Kathey Golightly Sanders, Jess Smith, Amy Pacyga,
Robert Kahne, Larry Gray, Diane Brewer, Abbi Wolfe, and Ron Smith

Highland's Lenten Journey Continues



A Note from Chris

Dear Highland Community of Faith,

Before wading into the issues of the day, let me say what a wonderful call Sunday we had at Highland and how pleased I am that Carol is going to be your pastor! I'll comment on that more before wrapping up my time with you at the end of this month.

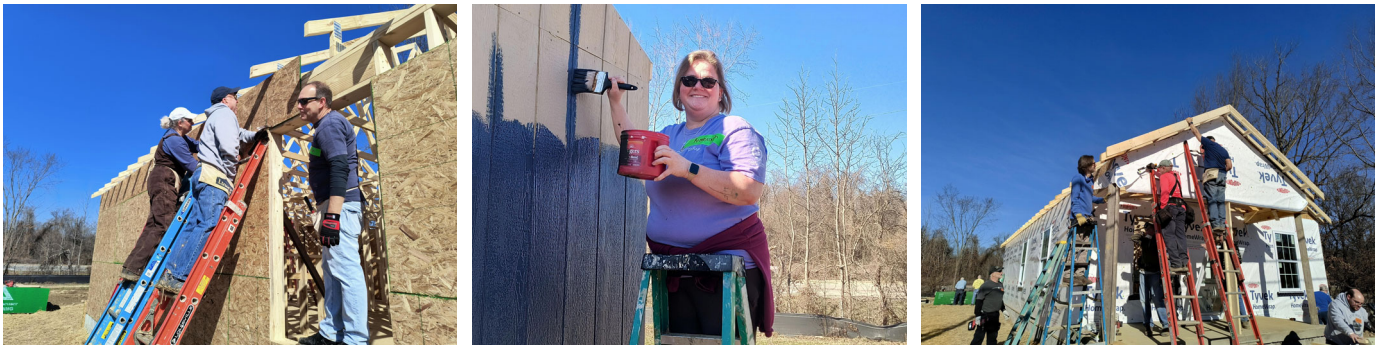
[I wrote this statement](#) in the wee hours of the morning that our nation's attack on Iran began. This

Wednesday night, I'll lead us in a conversation around ethical frameworks around issues of war and peace.

Several of you have also asked for [a copy of this prayer I offered on Sunday](#). Peace to all.

~ Chris Caldwell

Habitat for Humanity Baptist Build



On February 26, 27 and 28, members of Highland gathered together with volunteers from several Baptist churches in the Louisville area for our annual Baptist Build/Raise the Roof. We had great weather as we went from a flat foundation to a home with walls, windows, doors and a roof! Thanks to Jason Baker, John Foster, Kimbrough Gossett, John Pacyga, and David Swim. It was a privilege to share the love of Christ with our community and fellow Baptist churches.

~ Larry Hoover



West End School Receives Donations

The West End School ("WES") is "a scholarship-based independent school serving scholars in Pre-K through 8th grade." Adrienne Dubins, WES Admissions, Volunteer and Development Head, and her assistant, Robin Thomas, a volunteer herself, were guest speakers at the February Jean Janes mission group meeting. One of the organization's top needs is raising awareness about WES, thus this article. Adrienne and Robin are pictured below with donations received from the Jean Janes group.



WES is located on Virginia Avenue. Its oldest building is 101 years old and was originally known as the Virginia Avenue Colored School. WES was founded in 2005 with an initial enrollment of three middle school boys; it has grown to serving 140 scholars, including girls. The **ONLY** cost to parents is a small fee for Pre-K through 5th grade for after school care and for uniforms; **tuition is free to all scholars!** WES also provides weekday boarding for middle school boys. The organization's focus isn't solely on education - it seeks to develop the whole individual, promoting a purposeful life and contributing to the community. Recently, WES received 260 applications for 52 scholar openings!

WES relies heavily on private donations, with its only government funding covering school meals. Aside from donations and raising awareness, WES needs help providing dinners for middle school scholars and school supplies. To learn more, [visit the WES website here](#).

~ Cheryl Priddy



Jean Janes Yard Sale March 21



Please continue bringing your items to the church for our yard sale! You may 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

Senior Adults to Visit Old Talbott Tavern

Join us for our next event on Tuesday, March 9, when we will enjoy lunch at The Old Talbott Tavern in Bardstown. Call, text, or [email 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!

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



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



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

- March 6-8: Spring Women's Retreat
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
March 29: Palm Sunday, 8:45 and 11:15 AM, Carol Harston begins serving as pastor
April 2: Maundy Thursday, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall
April 3: Good Friday, 7:00 PM, Sanctuary
April 5: Easter Services, 8:45 and 11:15 AM, Easter Potluck Breakfast, 10:00 AM
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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.

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.



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