



**The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church
March 31, 2026**

 **Join Us for Holy Week Services!**



Holy Week Highland Baptist Church

We look forward to a beautiful Holy Week and Easter together!



Maundy Thursday Service: April 2, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

This intimate service takes place in smaller gatherings around the Fellowship Hall. We will offer a time of fellowship with charcuterie. At 7:00 p.m., we will join in a time of communion, hymns, reading Scripture, and hand washing. Carol Harston will lead our Lenten reflection.

Tenebrae Service: Friday, April 3, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

The Service of Darkness is based on the ancient word Tenebrae (shadows) and remembers Christ's suffering and crucifixion through music and scripture. Highland's Sanctuary Choir provides the music for the service.



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5



Worship, 8:45 and 11:15 a.m., Sanctuary

Carol Harston, Proclaimer

Join us for this time of celebration as the Sanctuary resounds with congregational singing, choirs, and brass. Our 2nd and 3rd grade children will process with Easter lilies in the 11:15 a.m. service. Together, we will proclaim that Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Sanctuary Choir Anthem: *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

Easter Morning Fellowship, 10:00 a.m.

Join us between services for food and fellowship for all ages.

- Join us for a finger-food breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Please use the QR below to bring a breakfast item to share.
- You are invited to bring fresh flowers to adorn our Easter cross outside in front of the sanctuary.
- Easter egg hunt for children at 10:15 on the lawn.



Worship Care for infants-preschool children is available during all Holy Week and Easter services.





Around Highland
March 29, 2026



Highland Welcomes New Members



Nicole Sutherland and her mother, Karen Sutherland, joined Highland on March 29, 2026. They are pictured with Nicole's daughters, Avery and Olivia Cutler.

The Commons

These past seven days have been full, with meetings individually with leaders from Deacons, the Ministry Council, and Anti-Racism, as well as with Walter, Renee, Paul, and John. Time spent in Ministry Staff Meeting and Anti-Racism allowed me to see the dedicated passion and attention to detail happening behind the scenes at Highland. On Sunday, I was able to drop in and say hello to all our Bible Study classes, from birth through adults, and catch a glimpse of the vibrant discussions and deep connections you all foster as you gather weekly to connect and grow in faith. Last night, I sat down with our Strategic Planning Team, where they shared with me all their great work shaping Highland's future.

As I sat down at my desk on Monday, I smiled while going over my Sunday bulletin, deciphering the names I had scribbled in the margins of all the new people I had the chance to meet. I look forward to finding time with each of you to learn more about you and hear how your faith journey has brought you to these pews.

Our Easter faith unfolds as we live in a Good Friday reality, a reminder I encountered today when learning of the Supreme Court's decision to reject Colorado's law banning conversion therapy for LGBTQ+ minors. We hold close to our hearts all those who have personally endured conversion therapy's traumatizing theology, especially those in our own community of faith, and we hope for a day when such practices no longer harm the youngest among us. On this day, Trans Day of Visibility, we affirm God's inclusive love and cherish the joy that comes when God's light shines on all people living their faith bravely in the open.

Holy Week began on Sunday morning with Jesus humbly riding into a city filled with both expectation and fear, led so beautifully by our Children's Choir. We saw the disciples doing their small part and wondered what faithful response God is calling each of us to make this week. How are *you* opening yourself to be shaped anew by the stories of our crucified and risen Christ?

Amid your busy schedule, I encourage you to take time to observe Holy Week traditions, whether in person at our Maundy Thursday and Tenebrae services or by [reading the scriptures at home](#). And on Sunday morning, bring your flowers for the cross and meet us in the sanctuary to join in awe and joyful anticipation as we renew our faith in empty tombs and new beginnings.

~ Carol Harston

Scenes from Palm Sunday





Children Engage *The Work of Imagination* during Lent

During the Lenten season, our children have been engaging in the same themes found in worship as we consider what is *The Work of Imagination*.

A few Sundays ago, their text was the story of Jesus and the Canaanite woman. Do you remember it? The scripture paraphrase used on Sunday morning describes it this way. "Long ago, Jewish and Canaanite people lived in separate communities. They followed different traditions, practiced different faiths, and believed different things. These differences created tension. Each community saw the other as outsiders and treated them as if they didn't belong."

This context is the backdrop for the story. The Canaanite woman was shouting and begging for Jesus to heal her daughter, who was quite sick. Jesus brought up the differences in their two different communities, and replied saying that he cannot help because of those differences. But the woman doesn't give up. Her thoughtful, courageous, and persistent reply allowed Jesus to think, to wonder, to be moved. Jesus changed his mind. He healed the woman's daughter, and he declared the woman faithful.

Our children engaged this story, and multiple classes talked about obstacles and navigating life. Our 4th and 5th graders included discussion around decision points and Robert Frost's poem.



Our older children recorded what they learned on index cards from their obstacle navigating experience:

- I learned that everyone makes mistakes, even Jesus.
- Treat everyone the same.
- I learned that there are many different pathways that you can take in life because Jesus gave us different choices.
- Anyone can learn.
- I learned that there can be challenges in life, and we need to find ways to get through them.
- I learned there can be obstacles in life, and you just have to jump over it.
- I learned that even if it gets hard or there's an obstacle, you should take a chance and you never know if it will be great.
- I learned that it's harder to do obstacles with baggage.

What deeply profound truths from the mouths and minds of (tween) babes!

Consider these recognitions as you walk through the ordinary, and oh-so human, obstacles, challenges,

and/or decision points in your own life through this Holy Week and beyond. I can't help but wonder what we might discover together.

~ Renee Purtlebaugh

Easter Breakfast Sign Ups Continue



Join us for breakfast on April 5 at 10:00 AM as we celebrate the resurrection together on Easter Morning. We will serve breakfast in the Fellowship Hall so that rain or shine, we have a plan in place. You are welcome to eat downstairs or take breakfast outside if the weather is nice! [Please sign up here](#) to bring breakfast items to share with our faith community.

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!

April Menus:

April 1: Baked Ziti or Lasagna, Steamed Vegetables, Salad, Bread Sticks, Dessert

April 8: No Dinner (JCPS Spring Break)

April 15: Barbecue Pork, Mac & Cheese, Baked Beans, Salad, Dessert

April 22: Mexican Casserole, Steamed Veggies, Salad, Chips & Salsa

April 29: Pizza, Salad, Steamed Veggies, Dessert



Cream of the Crop to see "Titanic the Musical"



Highland's Cream of the Crop group is going to see "**Titanic The Musical**" on **Sunday, April 12 at 2:00 PM**. This is the Broadway musical and not a version of the Titanic movie. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$18 for seniors and students [online here](#). Tickets are selling fast so order today! **We invite all our Highland community to attend.** The show is directed by Highland member Cathy Ryan and stars her husband Richard Ryan as the Titanic Captain. Additional performances are being held on Easter Weekend April 3-5 and April 9-12. Clarksville Little Theatre is located 301 E Montgomery in Clarksville, Indiana and phone is 812-283-6522.

[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>

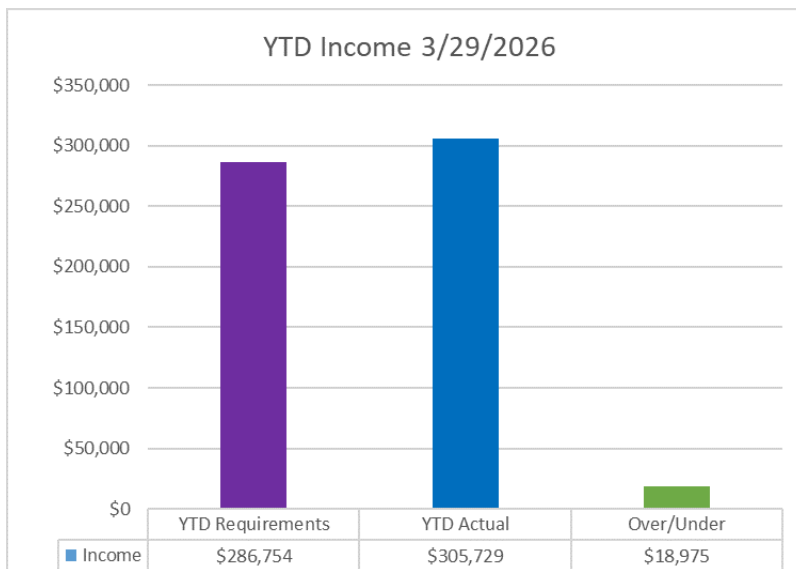
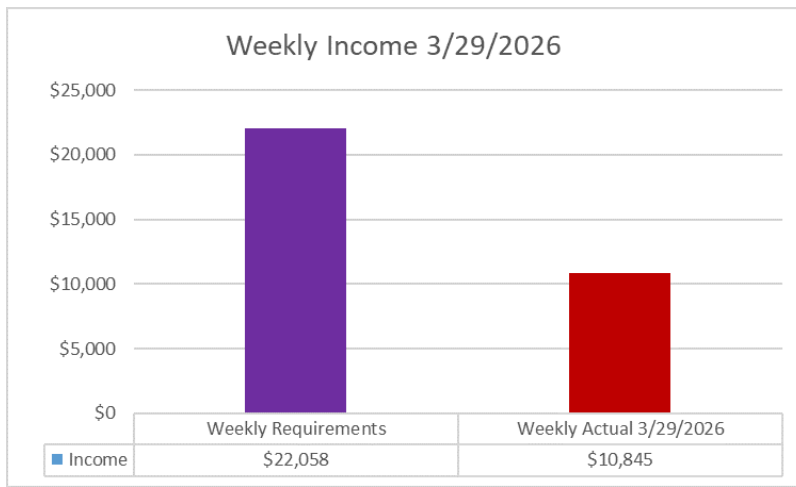


Looking Ahead

- April 1: Cloud of Witness, 6:15 PM - Emily Edwards, Cheryl Priddy, and Nathan Rider
April 2: Maundy Thursday, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall
April 3: Tenebrae Service, 7:00 PM, Sanctuary
April 5: Easter Services, 8:45 and 11:15 AM, Easter Potluck Breakfast, 10:00 AM
April 26: Children's Sabbath



Financial Update



**To make a donation from your phone, text "give2hbc" to 502-747-1212
and open the link or use the QR code below.**





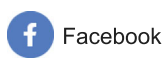
Louisville Homicides

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.

Remembering Evelyn Evans



Evelyn joined Highland in July 2012 after moving to Louisville to be nearer her son's family. She lived here during half of the year, spending the other half in Florida in the town where she was born. When in Louisville, she faithfully attended worship, participated in the Friendship Bible Study Class, and volunteered in the church office for a number of years. As the pandemic and mobility/health challenges prevented her from attending Highland in person, she became an avid user of Zoom and Youtube in order to stay connected virtually. She died on February 25 at age 89. We mourn the loss of this beloved member of our Highland family who has joined the cloud of witness gathered 'round this sacred place.



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