



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church April 7, 2026

The Commons

What a joy it was to worship with you on Easter morning! I'm deeply grateful to everyone who dedicated their time and talents to making our gathering such a meaningful day with worship and fellowship. Highland's Worship Ministry Group worked very hard, along with our choir, musicians, and ministry and office staff. We carry this joy with us as we enter into Eastertide.



During my doctoral research on traumatizing theology, I encountered Serene Jones' *Trauma and Grace: Theology in a Ruptured World*. Originally published in 2009 with a second edition in 2019, Jones explores the connection between trauma and theology, emphasizing how psychological research on trauma relates

to our sacred stories and lives as people of faith. In the third section of her book, “Ruptured Redeemings,” Jones identifies how we can be creative people of faith when life doesn't go as planned.

In my Eastertide sermons this April and May, we'll read stories from the Book of Acts and explore Jones' five aspects of grace-filled living in a ruptured world: permission, agency, voice, time, and call. Together, we'll create an “Easter Toolbox” for living out our faith in the midst of our real lives, imagining that who God will enable us to be on the other side of our challenges will be better than we can even imagine right now.

I'll be out of the office this week as Drew and I spend some quality time with the kids, who are on spring break. I look forward to returning to you on Sunday as we continue our “Hallelujahs” into Eastertide!

~ Carol Harston





Highland Welcomes New Member



Walt Harston joined Highland on April 5, 2026 for baptism.



Deacon Nominations Open Now

Who will serve our church this year?

Each year, our congregation nominates members to serve as Deacons — not as an administrative board, but as servant leaders who invest themselves in the life and care of our congregation. Deacons serve a three-year term. Our deacon body is intentionally diverse: new members and longtime Highland families, younger voices and seasoned ones. The deadline for nominations this year is April 26.



How nominations work: You nominate up to 10 people using the online form or paper forms in upcoming orders of worship. A subgroup of current deacons reviews all nominations and then brings a proposed list to the full congregation for approval.

[Submit your nominations here by April 26!](#) Need help or want to submit your nominations by phone? Call the church office at 502-451-3735.

~ Paige Harlow, Deacon Chair

Easter Sunday



Wednesday Night Series at 6:15 PM

April 15 & 22: Easter Toolboxes

Easter's arrival interrupts our Lenten practices with joy and delight, which can feel a little jarring when we sense that Good Friday's reality isn't fully behind us. We still encounter dead ends and face challenges. We see a world suffering from bombs, bullets, and bad news. We proclaim God's good news in worship—how do we live it out in our daily lives? In step with my Eastertide sermons on the spiritual tools that help us practice resurrection faith, we'll ask each other: What's in your Easter Toolbox that lifts your spirits on tough days? What habits help you practice resurrection when you've been knocked down? What people inspire you to open your imagination about what's possible? What verses keep you going when you're tempted to give up?

~ Carol Harston

Holy Week at Highland



Highland at Racing Louisville FC Pride Night – Tickets Available Now!

Highland will again participate in **Pride Night with Racing Louisville FC** on **Friday, May 29** at **Lynn Family Stadium (8:00 p.m. kickoff)**. This is our third year joining this event, alongside 22 other welcoming and affirming congregations from across the Louisville area.



Our shared goal is to have 500 congregants seated together as a visible sign of affirmation, support, and love for the LGBTQIA+ community in Louisville.

To sit in the section with the other congregations, [use Highland's ticket link here](#). Highland tickets are purchased individually, and each purchase through this link places you in the shared section. No church coordination or payment collection is needed. Tickets are approximately \$19. If you have questions or need more information, [email Alan Spade here](#).

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 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

Standing With Our Neighbors: Immigrant Justice & Community Action

NIMA KULKARNI
Kentucky State Representative
Founder & Director, New Americans Initiative

Join us. Learn with us. Stand with us.
FREE | Sat., 4.11.26 | 2:30-4:30 pm
New Albany-Floyd County Public Library



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 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>

**Streaming
Worship
Links**



April 8: No Wednesday evening supper or activities

April 15 & 22: *Easter Toolboxes* - Wednesday night series at 6:15 PM

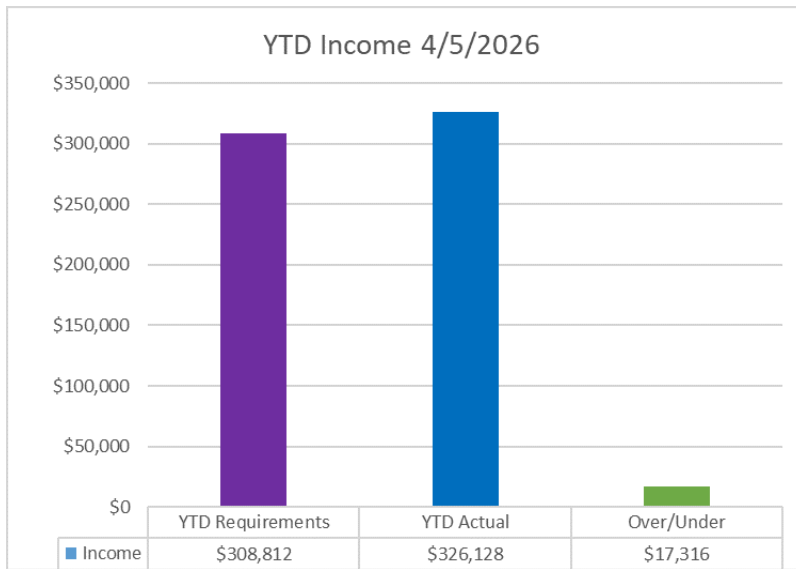
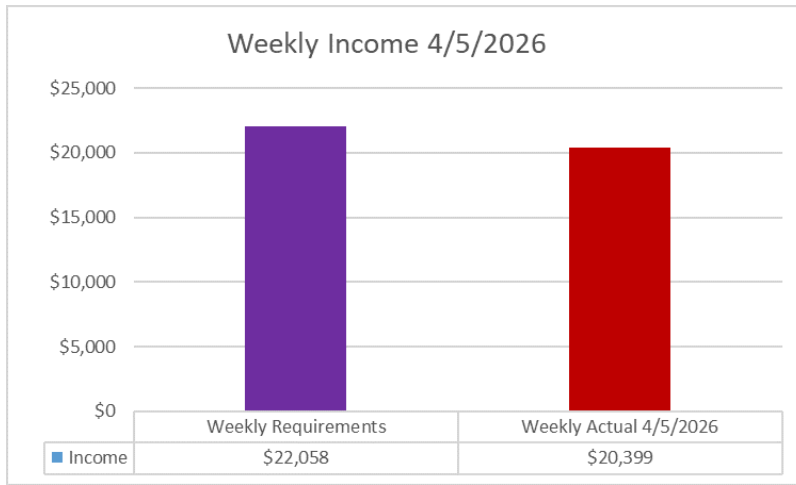
April 26: Children's Sabbath

May 3, 10, 17: Highlights classes for new members and visitors during Bible study at 10:00 AM

May 10: Youth Sunday



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.**

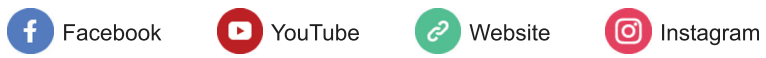




Louisville Homicides

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.

- Remon D. Allen, 27, killed March 20
 - Charmont Thompson, 34, killed March 22
 - Katelyn Hall, 28, killed March 27
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