



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church May 27, 2026

The Commons

In a recent Highlights class, one of our visitors said he's looking for a place to plant some roots. He was not alone. We heard from our visitors over and over again that people are looking for community - a place to know others and be known by people they wouldn't have crossed paths with if not for the church.

Highland: We know how to do this. We have everything we need to help people plant roots in the sacred ground we share at Cherokee and Grinstead. You have a role to play in developing these roots. I encourage you to consider: *What helped you grow roots at Highland? How can you help others do the same?*

I've begun reaching out to people who have been away from Highland over the past few months or years. I'm hearing from people who have been struggling with health challenges that kept them from attending, and from others whose routines changed after COVID. I encourage you to wonder: Who have you not seen for a while? How can you reach out to let them know you've noticed their absence and that you miss seeing them? Whether or not they return, it matters that we are people who notice, who reach out, and who remind each other that our love and connection are deeper than whether or not we share a pew.

Over the weekend, I had the great honor of officiating Sara Sanders' wedding to Larry Felix. Sara grew up at Highland and still finds her way into the choir loft whenever she visits her family in town. Sara's roots run deep at Highland—something made possible by the countless Highland teachers, mentors, and ministers who created a space for her to grow and blossom.

It's our turn to offer the same love and care to babies Ray, Harbin, Sol, and Luke, so that they, too, can see that we helped them nurture deep roots that continue to bear fruit into adulthood. How lucky are we to be entrusted with such holy work?

~ Carol Harston



Supporting Immigrants

For the last several years, clients of Kentucky Refugee Ministries have attended English classes held at our church three days each week. For the last three months, several Highland members have been at the church building during the hours the KRM clients are here to keep an eye out for officers of Immigration

and Customs Enforcement—known as ICE—and to give support and a level of protection to the clients and to church staff.

We need more volunteers to fill the two-hour shifts on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday mornings. If you are interested, you will need to participate in one of two trainings held this evening at 6:00 PM and Sunday, May 31 at 7:00 PM, both in the Commons. The training will last about an hour. (You don't have to commit to being a volunteer to attend the trainings.) Please join us tonight or Sunday night - no signup necessary.

~ Nancy Goodhue



We're trying something new this summer: lay-led, informal social gatherings to create connections through play. Like an experiment, we're going to test it as the summer goes on to see what works and what we might try differently next summer. To learn more about hosting a gathering or activity, [click here](#).

Questions? Carol Harston, Paul Henderson, and Troy Burden are working through the details as we get Highland Hangouts up and running. Reach out to [Carol](#), [Paul](#), or [Troy](#) with questions and ideas!

🎉 Congratulations to Our Highland Graduates!

With joy and deep gratitude, we celebrate the graduates in our Highland community, giving thanks for their curiosity, discipline, imagination, and perseverance. We are thankful for all the teachers, families,

friends, and mentors who helped carry them to this moment. May God bless each graduate with wisdom for the questions still unfolding, courage for every new beginning, humility to keep learning, delight in their gifts, and compassion that turns knowledge into service. As they step into what comes next, may they know they are not walking alone, but are surrounded by the prayers, pride, and love of this community, held by the One who has been with them in every hard won lesson, every unexpected turn, and every hopeful step toward the future.

Delaney Baker graduated from Bellarmine University with a bachelor's degree in marketing.

Gwyneth Baker graduated from Ballard High School.

Ainsley Braun graduated from duPont Manual High School and plans to attend the University of Chicago.

Luke Boggs graduated from duPont Manual High School and plans to attend American University, where he will study journalism and international affairs.

Tabor Boggs graduated from Atherton High School and plans to attend NC State Honors College, where he will study biology.

Peter Brown graduated from Bellarmine University with an MBA in business analytics.

Hayzel Hardesty earned board certification as a pharmacy technician.

Ben Pacyga anticipates completing his master's degree in computer science and engineering from the University of Louisville in August.

Joseph Parr graduated from Indiana University with a master's degree in music in organ and sacred music and plans to pursue a doctorate in organ and sacred music at IU.

Jenna Proffit graduated from the University of Louisville with a bachelor's degree.

Satchel Walton graduated from the University of North Carolina with a bachelor's degree.

~ John Kupar

 **Summer Fun Crawl for Families with Children**



Families with children are invited to join us for our Summer Fun Crawl around Louisville! Together we'll make stops at local ice cream shops, have picnics with popsicles at various parks, and make some stops at spraygrounds for water play on hot days. We'll gather each Wednesday night from June 3-July 22 from 6-7 pm. Watch for our weekly location in the church newsletter, or find the full list in our bi-weekly e-newsletter for families, *Family Ministry Happenings*. To sign up for this publication, please contact [Renee](#) or [Megan](#).

~ Renee Purtlebaugh

Cheryl Davis' Five-Year Recognition



On Sunday, Cheryl Davis was recognized for her five-year work anniversary as Highland's Office Manager. Cheryl brings an effervescence and an amazing amount of talent to the church office every day. She is a delight to work with and is a wonderful person to have on staff. The next time you see her please thank her for all that she does!

~ Walter McWhorter

Joining Highland on May 31 and June 7

Have you considered joining Highland but weren't sure how to do so? Did you recently attend the Highlights class and are ready to make your commitment to be part of Highland official? Have you wished someone else might join when you do, so that you aren't being introduced all on your own? If any of these describe you, on Sunday, May 31 and Sunday, June 7, you are invited to take the membership leap! During the Hymn of Response immediately following the sermon, you're invited to let the congregation know of your decision to become a full participant in this faith community with others who wish to do the same. We look forward to welcoming you! If you have any questions, please contact [Renee Purtlebaugh](#).

~ Renee Purtlebaugh

Highland Veterans Gathering



A group of Highland veterans recently met with senior pastor Carol Harston to get acquainted and share experiences during past military service. Services represented included Air Force, Army, Marines, and Navy. Another informal gathering is scheduled for Saturday, June 6 at 9:00 AM at Fante's Coffee, 2501 Grinstead Drive. All Highland veterans are invited.

Pride Month

JUNE

14



PRIDE SUNDAY

Celebrate Pride in Worship at Highland, with services at 8:45 and 11:15 AM.

JUNE

17



DRAG REVIVAL

A family friendly spiritual night of music and joy at Highlands Community Ministries, 7-9 PM.

JUNE

20



KENTUCKIANA PRIDE PARADE

Highland will walk in the Pride Parade! Sign-ups begin this Sunday.

Drag Revival Hosted by May O'Nays



The 5th annual Drag Revival is a night celebrating diversity, inclusion, and LGBTQIA+ community support

through performance and art. Now in its fifth year, the event will raise funds for PRISM Performing Arts and Camp Beacon, organizations that empower LGBTQIA+ folks and promote self-expression. Join us for this family friendly spiritual night of music and joy on June 17 at Highlands Community Ministries, 7:00-9:00 PM. Tickets are \$6.89 each. [You can purchase tickets here.](#)

Race4Justice on June 6

Future Ancestors 502 is student-led social justice organization founded by students at Waggner High School. Highland friend, Ryan Davis, is the teacher sponsor. Race4Justice is their event on June 6 to help increase awareness around justice and raise funds for community organizations.



Get Your Team Together

26 Lap Walk/Jog/Roll Relay
One lap to honor every year of Breonna Taylor's life, continue the call for justice, and raise money for organizations doing good work in our community.

Team Captain Instructions

- Go to FutureAncestors502.org
- Select the 9:30am Event
- Enter your info and select "Create Team"
- Come up with a team name. Make it fun or use it to highlight an organization or cause
- Recruit more people! When they register they select "Join Team"

#BREEWAYY

RACE4 JUSTICE

Saturday June 6th

The graphic features several images: a group of four runners on a track, two women in pink shirts running, and a central logo with hands holding a banner that says 'RACE4 JUSTICE' and '#BREEWAYY'.

They are seeking team captains to recruit groups of 3-9 people to walk or run together. See above for information or [click here](#).

~ Naomi Sipe

[Click Here for Church Signup Links](#)

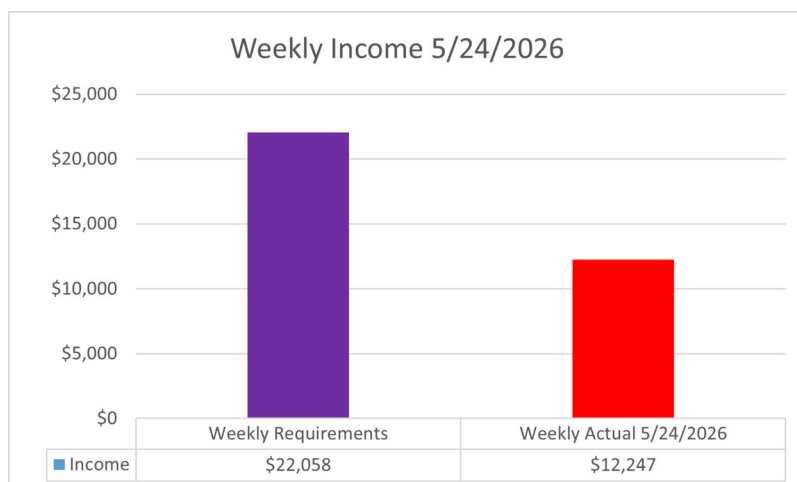
Sunday, 11:15 AM
<https://www.facebook.com/hbclouisville.org>
<https://www.youtube.com/@highlandbaptist>
 Friday, 7:00 PM
<https://www.facebook.com/hbclouisville.org>

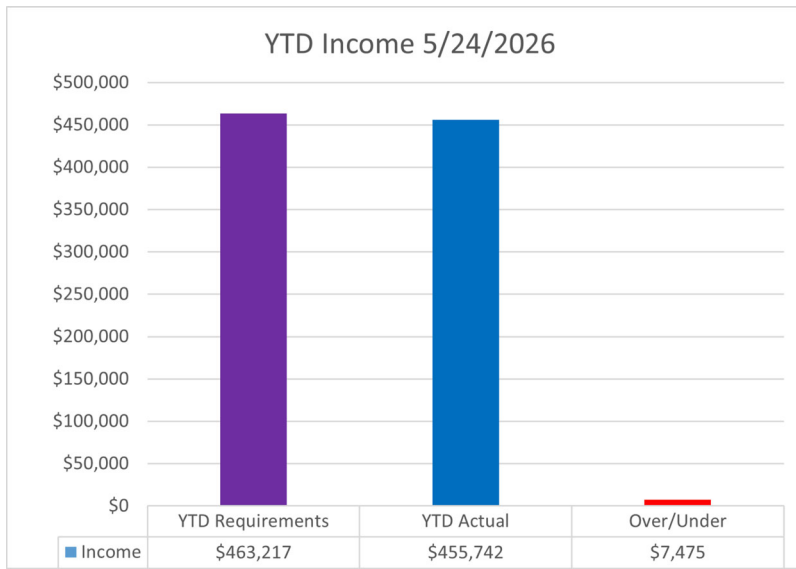
**Streaming
 Worship
 Links**



- May 27: Immigrant Support Training, 6:00 PM in the Commons
- May 29: Pride Night at Racing Louisville FC, 8:00 PM, Lynn Family Stadium
- May 31: Immigrant Support Training, 7:00 PM in the Commons
- June 6: Veterans Gathering, Fante's Coffee, 9:00 AM
- June 14: Pride Sunday at Highland, 8:45 and 11:15 AM services
- June 17: Drag Revival at Highlands Community Ministries, 7:00-9:00 PM
- June 20: Pride Parade and Festival

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.

- Edward Lewis Kelley, 52, killed on Saturday, April 25
 - Tyler Wall, 33, killed on Friday, May 1
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