



## The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church June 2, 2026

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### The Commons

This past weekend marked my 10th week as your senior pastor, and in my sermon, I invited you to explore with me: What big task is God calling us to take on - something grand enough to take years to accomplish and good enough to reflect our God who commissions us? While some of you may have preferred that I just tell you the answer so we can get started, we have to begin by *asking the question* - in prayer with God and in conversation with each other. As we keep asking the question, I trust that God will lead us forward, out into the world, with enough passion to fuel us through the struggles and miracles that come with hard, holy work.

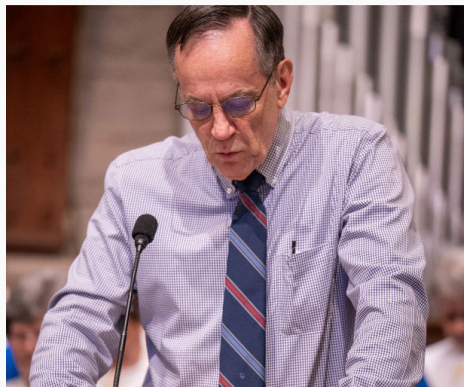
You may have heard that we brought a group of Highland veterans together for an informal first meeting to get to know one another, at the request of a church member. I would be happy to help create other informal connections within the congregation based on shared life experiences (such as infertility and/or adoption, caring for aging parents, job-related challenges, etc.). If there's a life experience you'd be interested in connecting with others about, please [reach out to me](#).

In June, we'll explore well-known stories from Genesis as invitations to wonder about God's promises, our plans, and the twists and turns life holds for people of faith. On **June 7**, John Kubar will invite us to join Abram and Sarai as they leave home in search of the land God promises. On **June 14**, several Highland people will offer reflections on the unexpected visitors who tell Sarah she will soon have a son, prompting laughter at what seems unfathomable to her in her old age, as part of Pride Sunday. On **June 21 and 28**,

I will lead us through two painful and complex stories in Genesis to wonder together about God's promises and our plans, focusing on Abraham and Sarah's banishment of Hagar and Ishmael and Isaac's near-death experience at Abraham's hand.

However you're moving through this summer, know that our staff holds you close to our hearts and prays that you may find peace and renewal during this season.

~ Carol Harston



## Highland Welcomes New Members



**Mariana Meyer and Elsabe Meyer joined Highland on May 31**

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# 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.

[Click here to join us for the Pride Parade!](#)

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 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.](#)

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## Highland's Children Anticipate Discovery Camp Next Week



What prompts you to notice something or someone in front of you and to become curious about it? What's their story? How does something function? What do we do next with our curiosity, our wonderings? Next week, Highland's K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders will gather for a week of activities we fondly call Discovery Camp where we will explore being wide-eyed with *Wonder*. Valarie Kaur's book "World of Wonder" will inspire us, particularly the quote, "You're a part of me I don't yet know." Join us next week by praying for our children and leaders as we gather, learn, and lean into curiosity and wonder together.

~ Renee Purtlebaugh

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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](#).

**Pickleball Hangout** - Friends of all ages, if you love to play pickleball or if you've ever thought about learning, come out and join us! Hosted by Mary Cooksey and Tanya Cornely on Sunday, June 28 from 6:00-8:00 PM at Charlie Vettiner Park (5550 Charlie Vettiner Park Rd, 40299). If you have an extra paddle bring that along for any new players. The alternate rain date is Tuesday, June 30 (same time and location). [Click here to sign up](#).

**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!

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## 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

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# Fifth Friday Faith & Fellowship



## Young Adult Retreat



The Young Adults group enjoyed a relaxing retreat last weekend at Lake Malone, filled with board games, movies, kayaking, great food, and meaningful conversations. Want to get more connected? Reach out to

[Paige Harlow](#) or join the Good Trouble Club Bible study every Sunday at 10:00 AM in the Commons classroom.

~ Paige Harlow

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## 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](http://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 two circular photos of participants on a track. The top photo shows four people in athletic wear with bib numbers 54, 53, and 55. The bottom photo shows two women in pink shirts with bib numbers 100 and 102. The central text and graphics are set against a white background with a purple border.

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

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## Joining Highland on June 7

Have you considered joining Highland but weren't sure how to do so? Did you recently attend the Highlights class 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, 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

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## Senior Adult Trip to Huber's



Join the senior adults on Thursday, June 11 for lunch at Huber's Family Farm and Restaurant at 12:00 noon. The church bus will leave at 11:00 AM. Please email [Paul Henderson](#) to reserve your spot.

~ Paul Henderson

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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>

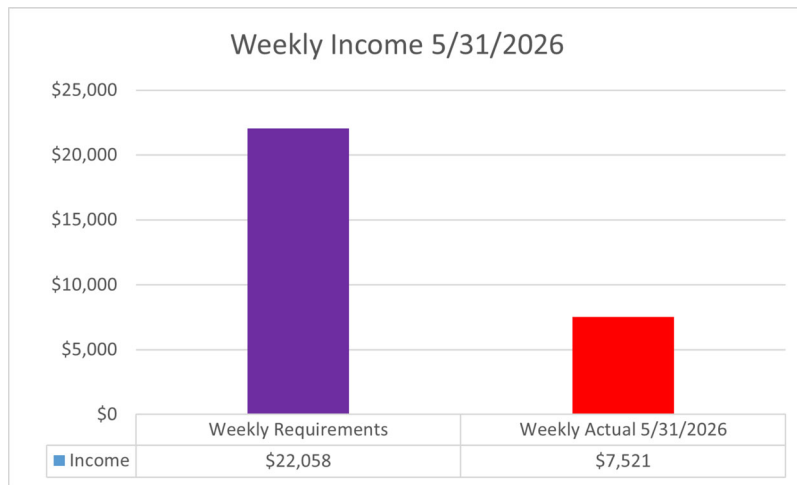
**Streaming  
Worship  
Links**

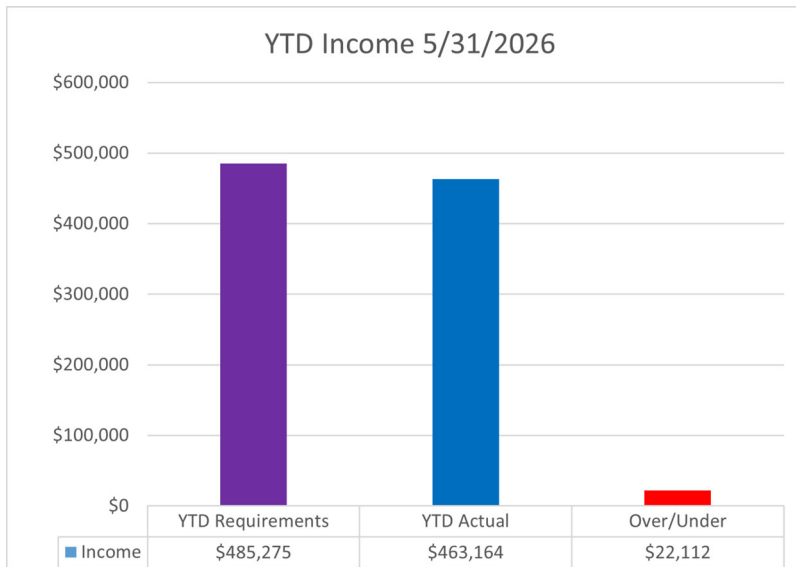




- June 6: Veterans' Gathering, Fante's Coffee, 9:00 AM
  - June 11: Senior Adult trip to Huber's Family Farm and Restaurant, 12:00 PM
  - June 14: Pride Sunday at Highland, 8:45 and 11:15 AM services
  - June 17: Drag Revival at Highlands Community Ministries, 7:00-9:00 PM
  - June 20: Pride Parade and Festival
  - July 19: Quarterly Church Conference, 4:00 PM via Zoom
  - August 12: Wednesday night activities resume
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## 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.

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