



The Weekly Newsletter of Highland Baptist Church September 22, 2026

Rooted in Generosity: Faithful Giving at Highland for 2027



As our season of faithful giving for the 2027 ministry budget continues, we are grateful to everyone who has made a financial commitment thus far. We are processing all pledges received to date, totaling \$483,600.64. We have heard from several people who plan to submit pledges. We appreciate everyone's efforts to submit pledges as soon as possible so we can best align our 2027 budget with people's financial commitments.

In case you missed it, [here is a link](#) to Zach and Anna's Faithful Giving story from last Sunday, starting at minute 56.

We will continue collecting pledges in worship this weekend. You may place your pledge card in the offering plate or contact Leslie Morris in the church office at (502) 451-3735.

Thank you,

~ *The Faithful Giving Ministry Group*

Thomas Bolton, Kelsey Grizzle, Drew Harston,
Tracy Holladay, Hollie Spade, with creative help from Dean Sipe



 **Highland Welcomes New Members**



**Richard and Carolyn Lawniczak joined Highland on September 20, 2026.
They are pictured with their children, George and Alice.**

Worship Care Volunteers Gather for Training



Did you know it takes over 130 volunteers to sustain our Ministry with Children and their Families? One vital group of volunteers gathered for training as they provide love and care for Highland's infants, toddlers, and preschool children during our two Sunday worship services. We give thanks for the 10 volunteers who serve monthly during our 8:45 am worship service, and the 63 volunteers who serve over the course of two months during our 11:15 am worship service. We are deeply grateful for each one of you! If you couldn't attend this training session, the next one will be held October 11 at 10:00 AM in the Children's Commons.

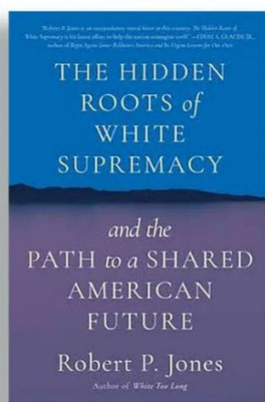
~ Renee Purtlebaugh

Ministry Council Proposes Bylaw Amendment for October QCC

The Ministry Council will bring an amendment to our upcoming Quarterly Church Conference (October 18) regarding the number of Ministry Council congregational representatives. The exact language of the proposed amendment will appear in the newsletter in the coming weeks.

Join in Our Next Community Read

The Anti-Racism Team invites you to read Robert P Jones' book *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy and the Path to a Shared American Future*. The team will lead a discussion of the book on **Wednesday, October 21 and October 28**. Many of you have already engaged with Robert P Jones' work through our study of *White Too Long* and shared that your lives and perspectives were transformed. This will be a read that will help to guide our steps as we continue seeking to be an antiracist organization.



You may purchase this book at Carmichael's with a 10 percent discount. Thank you in advance for engaging this important community read prayerfully and with courage and openness.

~ Missy Smith

Call for Support for Armelle Bondonga

Friends and family of Armelle Bondonga are asking community members to send postcards to Mayor Greenberg, who has yet to make a statement about Armelle's detention. We ask the mayor and his office to join other elected leaders in demanding that Armelle be released.



Armelle arrived in the U.S. as a young girl; she is a JCPS graduate and a valued member of our community. She was married in our sanctuary to a U.S. citizen, has completed all requirements for her green card, and has a young son at home who needs his mother. Continuing to detain Armelle is both cruel and unnecessary. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has the authority to release her and allow her to complete the process to obtain her green card.

Postcards will be available on Wednesday night and after both services on Sunday. A sample message you can send the mayor is below. [Here is a link](#) for those who would like to send the message online.

~ Immigrant Support Group, Anti-Racism Team

Dear Mayor Greenberg,

Please add your voice to other elected officials and community members by publicly demanding that Armelle Bondonga be released from ICE detention. DHS has the authority to release her.

[Sign your name]

Wednesday Night Adult Class Schedule

We look forward to gathering with adults of all ages in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday nights, 6:00-7:15 p.m., for community prayer, faith formation, and faith expression.

- September 23: Family Roots - More Than an Origin Story with Phil Collier (Faith Formation)
- September 30: No Wednesday Night Programming due to JCPS Fall Break
- October 7: Cloud of Witness with John Kubar, Peggy Holthaus, and Alan Spade, facilitated by Bob Cunningham (Community of Faith)
- October 14: Connecting with Global Mission Partners with Global Mission Team (Mission & Justice)
- October 21: Exploring Robert P. Jones' *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy* with the Anti-Racism Team (Mission & Justice)
- October 28: Exploring Robert P. Jones' *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy* with the Anti-Racism Team (Mission & Justice)

Upcoming Wednesday Night Adult Classes

September 23: Family Roots - More Than an Origin Story with Phil Collier

When it comes to family trees, it's what is under the surface that really matters. We'll consider how genealogy can unlock more than family secrets – creating connections with history and helping us find our place in a much larger community.

September 30: No Wednesday Night Programming due to JCPS Fall break

Highland's Staff Celebrates Work Anniversaries

The staff celebrated Cheryl Davis and Megan Fuller for their five-year work anniversaries with lunch together this week.



Wednesday Night Fellowship 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 make standing reservations or make them weekly by emailing [Leslie Morris here](#) or calling her at 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](#) anytime or by check or cash at the door. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this great opportunity for intergenerational fellowship!



September Menus:

September 23: BBQ Pork, Mac & Cheese, Baked Beans, Salad, Dessert

September 30: Fall Break - no Wednesday night dinner or programming

October Menus:

October 7: Fried Chicken/Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

October 14: Geoff Hale's Famous Cheesy Potato Soup & Baja Chicken Enchilada Soup, Salad, Cornbread, Dessert

October 21: Baked Ziti, Steamed Veggies, Salad, Bread, Dessert

October 28: Mexican Casserole, Steamed Veggies, Salad, Chips & Salsa, Dessert

Mission & Justice Meeting for All Teams and Interested Individuals

On Friday, September 25, from 5:00 to 6:30 PM, we will gather in the Children's Commons to (1) hear from those already plugged into Mission Teams, (2) hear from those interested in getting involved in new mission efforts, and (3) wonder together about what it looks like for Highland to engage in hopeful action in our city, state, and world. We encourage all those already active in a Mission Team, as well as those interested in getting plugged in, to attend. If you can attend Friday Church at 7:00 PM, we'll order dinner for 6:30 PM before we worship together. To RSVP for the meeting, [please email Carol Harston](#).

A Letter of Affirmation to Highland and Carol Harston



[Here is a letter](#) we received from Rev. Dr. Brian Henderson at AWAB on the occasion of Carol Harston's Installation last week.

Thank You, Highland

Thank you so much for the heartfelt warm wishes we received through Don's medical procedures, hospitalizations, rehab at Sam Swope Masonic Care, then back to Baptist Hospital up until his death. It has been a long road, but you all have sent cards and kept us in your prayers. The children's special-made cards with their artwork and messages sent over the summer always made us smile and helped us know they were being taught love and concern for others.

With gratitude,
~ Sandra Coulter

Don't Miss Trivia Night This Week!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026 7:00 PM
Highland Baptist Church
1101 Cherokee Road

\$20 per person at the door or
\$120 for a table of up to 8, paid by Sept 21 at Venmo QR code below.
(please use this code rather than the 'events' one in the church newsletter)

Steven Brown
@Steven-Brown-1625



PLEASE PRE-REGISTER AT
hbctrivianight@gmail.com

HAVE A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
OR OTHER GROUP TEAM;
BRING YOUR FRIENDS; BRING YOUR
TEAM; COME HAVE FUN.

Contact Steve or Margie Brown with questions;
Contact Marilyn Whistler to donate a dessert.



An Invitation to a Choral Evensong and Benediction



EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the
ADVENT
James Layton, organist-choirmaster

Highland
Baptist Church
Joseph Parr, organist &
chamber choir conductor



Choral Evensong & Benediction

The Feast of St. Michael & All Angels (observed)
Sung by the choir of the Episcopal Church of the Advent and the Highland Baptist Church chamber choir

Sunday, September 27, 2026

5:00 PM

Service immediately followed by
Song of the Vineyard music fundraiser.
See Advent's Facebook page for more details.
adventky.org

901 Baxter Avenue
Louisville, KY 40204

I Love Morocco 20th Anniversary Dinner

Join us for the

I Love Morocco 20th Anniversary Dinner



October 10, 2026
5:30pm - 7:30pm
Broadway Baptist Church
4000 Brownsboro Rd, Louisville, KY

A delightful evening of Moroccan couscous, cookies, fruit, mint tea, and fun to benefit the salaries of pastors in Morocco.

Register at cbfky.org

Help us celebrate the 20th anniversary of CBF KY's partnership with Morocco

- Silent auction
- Couscous cookoff (please bring a dish to share if you are willing)
- Pictures throughout the years
- Updates from Morocco

[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**

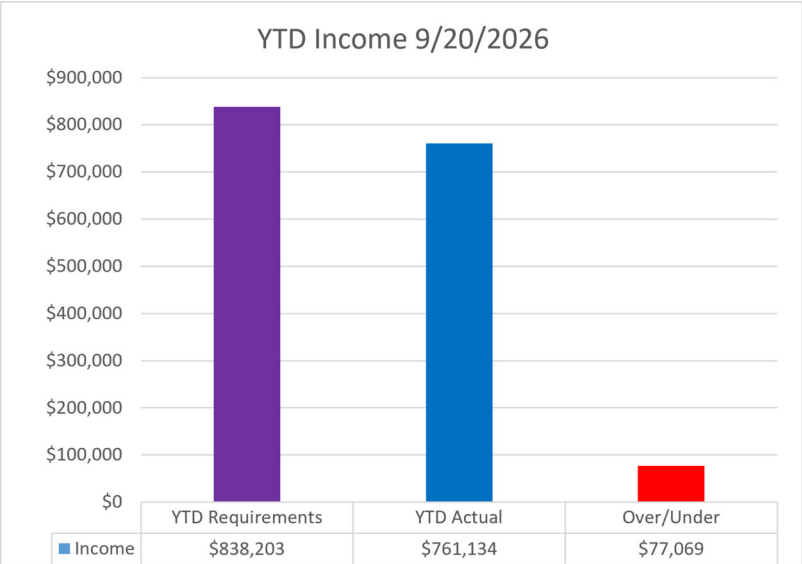
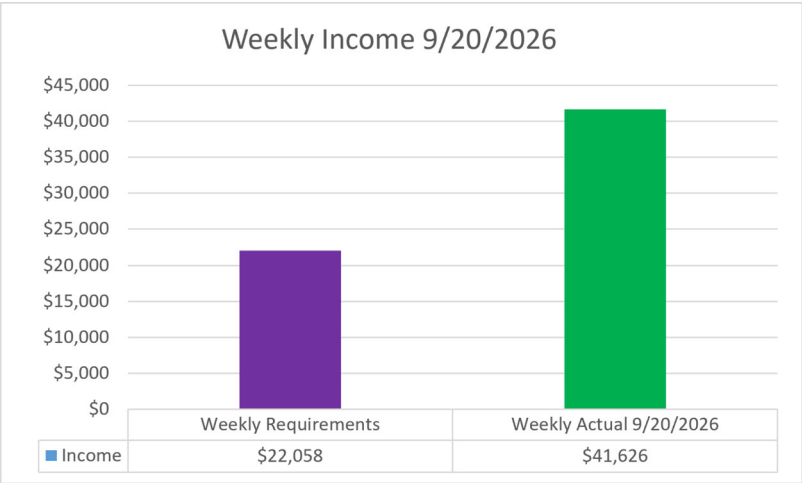


Looking Ahead

- September 23: "Family Roots - More Than an Origin Story" with Phil Collier, 6:00 PM
September 25: Missions and Justice Meeting, 5:00-6:30 PM, Children's Commons
September 26: Trivia Night Fundraiser for Sacred Space, 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall
September 27: Choral Evensong and Benediction, Episcopal Church of the Advent, 5:00 PM
September 30: No Wednesday Night Programming due to JCPS Fall Break
October 7: Cloud of Witness - John Kubar, Peggy Holthaus, and Alan Spade, 6:00 PM, Sanctuary
October 9-11: Women's Fall Retreat, contact Ginger Miller to sign up - 502-599-6569
October 11: Worship Care Training, 10:00 AM, Children's Commons
October 18: Highlights Classes Begin, 10:00 AM, Commons



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.



Copyright © 2026 Highland Baptist Church, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).