

February / March 2026

Newsletter

Highland Baptist Church

ENCOURAGEMENT JAR

Barnabas is the first name that comes to mind when I hear the word “encouragement.” His name means “son of encouragement.” His original name was Joseph. He was a Levite from Cyprus (Acts 4:36). One of the ways he encouraged the early church was when he “sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles’ feet” (4:37). Another example came in Acts 11 when he encouraged the church at Antioch “to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts” (v. 23). May we all be sons and daughters of encouragement! Remember to put a gemstone in the jar that’s by the sanctuary piano any time you give or receive encouragement. This can include times you encourage someone by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with them. It will be a visible reminder of what God is doing in and through us.

NOT TODAY, SATAN!

Keep encouraging family and friends to join us for this sermon series. Many listeners have commented how they’ve been able to apply the biblical truths from the sermons on overcoming Satan’s tactics of distraction, discouragement, deception, and division. Next up is temptation (Feb. 1), anger (Feb. 8), dating and marriage (Feb. 15), and people pleasing (Feb. 22).

WINTER INSPIRATION WITH BRO. GARY ELLCESSOR

Former HBC pastor Gary Ellcessor has invited me to preach on Monday night, February 16, at 6:00pm at Alton Baptist Church in Lawrenceburg for their “Winter Inspiration” series. If you’d like to go to encourage Gary and be “inspired” by God’s Word, the van will be leaving the church parking lot at 5:00pm.

READ THE OLD TESTAMENT THROUGH / 40 DAYS OF PRAYER CHECKUP

I’m here to encourage you. How’s your Bible reading going? Did you read Psalm 18:46 – “The Lord lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God my Savior!” Keep going and you will find amazing verses like this one. How’s your prayer life during these 40 days? Day 19 encourages us to pray that God will give us the strength and wisdom to be a good influence – salt and light (Matthew 5:13-14) – for Him. Keep praying!

EASTER WEEKEND / WEEK OF PRAYER FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

The Week of Prayer is typically closer to Easter weekend. This year it begins March 1 with prayer guides and an invitation to give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for our North American missionaries. Easter weekend is April 3-5 with our Good Friday service, our kids’ egg hunt on Saturday, and our Resurrection Celebration on Sunday morning. Jesus is risen!

It’s my joy and privilege to serve as your pastor! Let me know how I can serve you or pray for you.

– Pastor Chris

Women's Ministry

Recently we completed the study of the book of Colossians on Wednesday nights which was a great lead in to the "Not today, Satan" sermon series. Be reminded that "Christ is sufficient" in our efforts to live a transformed life. He is all we need! Be challenged to "set your mind on things above" as we face the distractions that the Deceiver puts in front of us. "Stay connected" to Christ and to one another as we walk through this season of winter both physically and spiritually. "Set your mind on things above" through prayer and Bible study daily. Encourage one another! I'm excited for a new year of ministry and fellowship.

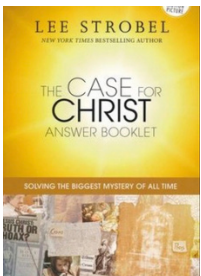
Colossians 2:6-7 "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught and overflowing with thankfulness." (NIV)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

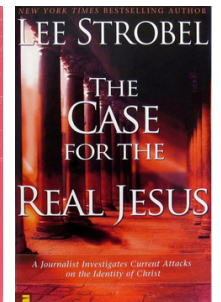
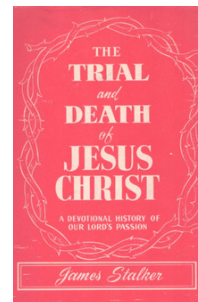
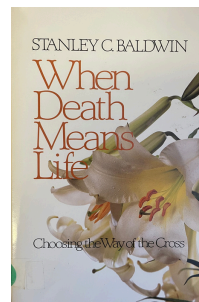
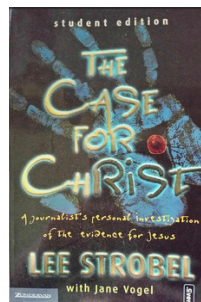
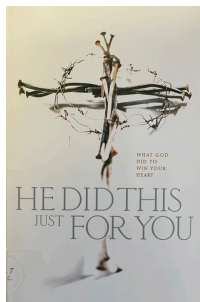
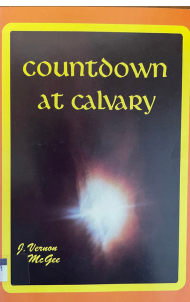
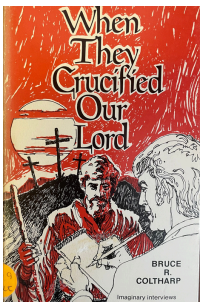
- **Friday night Fellowships** – Watch for the sign-up sheets in Highland Central
 - February 20th at 6:30pm - Bible verse card set with Misty Auten - Bring a light snack to share
 - March 20th - TBD
- **Women's Wednesday night Bible Study** will resume in March/April as we look forward to preparing our hearts for the spring retreat. Be on the lookout for more information and sign-ups.
- **Annual Spring Retreat** - May 2, 2026 from 10am - 3pm
 - Our theme this year is "SHINE": More of Christ / Less of Me
 - More of Christ through Bible Study
 - More of Christ through Prayer
 - More of Christ through Worship
 - More of Christ through Service

Prepare now to join us for fellowship, Bible Study, worship and celebration. Pray for those ladies God will put in your path to encourage and invite to join us.

Library Book Corner



Despite the snow on the ground, Easter is right around the corner, and regardless, the Messiah of Easter should be on our minds throughout the year. Easter brings with it questions about (1) what Jesus' death on the cross actually accomplished and (2) if we can trust His resurrection actually happened. Check out the "Easter Resources" section in the library for resources to help you learn more about the real, living Jesus of history.



Stewardship Team

The Stewardship Team reports that our contributions to the Building Fund for the period July-December 2025 total about \$16,500. For the remainder of the fiscal year ending 6/30/26, the Stewardship Team will be recommending that we increase the contributions to \$100,000 to pay for upcoming capital maintenance expenses.

The Maintenance Team has spent the past several months reviewing and researching some ongoing capital repairs that are in need of immediate attention. A special called business meeting will be held February 4th to address some of those concerns and a special campaign to address the funding for those projects will be introduced soon.

As our buildings and facilities age, it is important that we maintain our facilities in an excellent manner so our ministry efforts are advanced.

Apologetics Training

What is “apologetics”? Briefly, it involves learning to defend and prove a position or doctrine with logical reasoning and evidence.

PRO-LIFE 101, Apologetics & Training Series

Join us for conversation & teaching as we learn more about an issue at the heart of justice, at the heart of the Lord. All are welcome regardless of your position.

Led by Sharon Wilson.



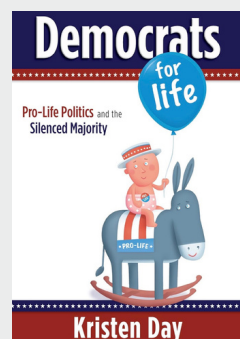
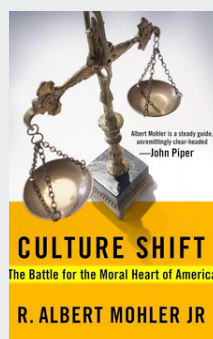
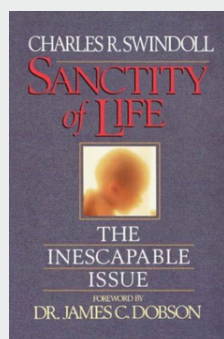
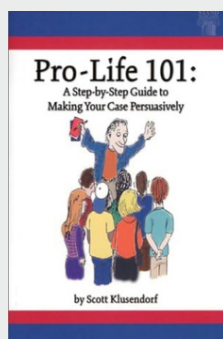
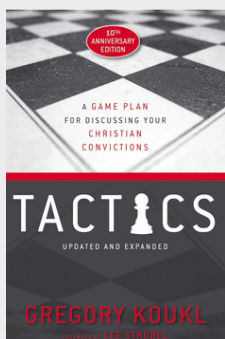
Choose which day to attend:

Sundays at 6pm (beginning 2/1)

Wednesdays at 6pm (beginning 2/4)
at Highland Baptist in Room 112

Our first apologetics training series will begin in February. We will talk about the abortion / pro-life issue as we learn to understand and defend the “*one main issue*” which must be resolved - Show up to find out what that is *one issue* is! Don’t assume you know all there is to know about abortion just because you hold a firm position on the issue. Can you defend your position with truth and grace?

This is not a political party debate (Democrats and Republicans could both be either pro-choice or pro-life). This is a moral issue and a gospel issue so we will discuss it from those vantage points. Come prepared with questions or objections to the pro-life argument that you want answered or want to know how to address.



These books are available in the church library’s “Apologetics” section. Additional recommendations will be given in a list during the series.

Senior Adults

February 16 at 12:00pm

Potluck - Best Soup Contest & Bingo

March 17

Mike Linnig's restaurant, Louisville

11:15am at church if riding in church van

12:00pm at the restaurant



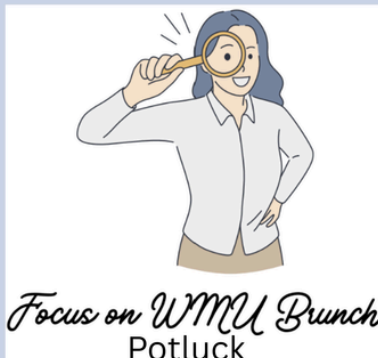
By Appointment Only on Tuesdays
Call 502-783-6534 to Schedule Your Appointment
(Not scheduled through the church office)

WMU

It is already the second month of the new year of 2026.

Our monthly WMU meeting will be February 9 at 1pm in Highland Central. All women are invited to attend. During the month of February, our WMU group has chosen to promote the giving of needed food items for our food pantry. We are also asking for boxes that can be used by those taking food items home.

Our March meeting will be March 9 at 1pm in Highland Central. During the month of March, we will be collecting items needed by ALC.



Saturday, February 7
10am-noon
Smithfield Baptist Church

All women are invited to join as we hear ideas for learning, praying, supporting, and doing missions with special activities for each of those areas. Missionary speaker yet to be announced.

Our church has been chosen to host the State WMU Annual Meeting on April 10-11. More details will follow.

We would like to thank the church for supporting our ministry and the different projects we promote throughout the year.

Upward Basketball & Cheer 2026

February, the shortest month, happens to coincide with the conclusion to our Upward basketball and cheer league this year. It seems like the season has flown by as we enter the halfway point at the beginning of February and conclude our games on 2/28/26.

An Upward Celebration will occur on Sunday evening March 1st with guest entertainer David Garrard who will present the gospel in a unique way.

We have 110 participants this year, comprising 12 basketball teams and 3 cheer squads, and have focused on 4 virtues and corresponding scripture verses: excellence (Colossians 3:17), diligence (1 Corinthians 15:58), good news (1 Corinthians 5:21), and humility (Philippians 2:3).

A special thanks goes out to our many volunteers, consisting of coaches, referees, scoreboard operators, concession workers, prayer warriors, and team encouragers.

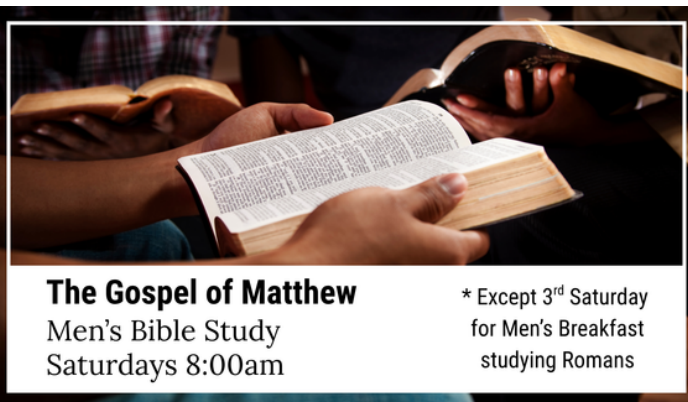
We look forward to concluding our 20th season with a bang as our Celebration on March 1st culminates in an uplifting and encouraging event that strives to make disciples by engaging the participants in the transformative gospel of Jesus Christ.



Men's Ministry

Men's Breakfast

Feb. 21
March 21
8:00am



The Gospel of Matthew
Men's Bible Study
Saturdays 8:00am

* Except 3rd Saturday
for Men's Breakfast
studying Romans

Children's Ministry



Save the Date! VBS June 7-11, Family Night on the 12th



After Church Hangout

February 15th
in the Gym

Children's Ministry Families Stay After Church for Bouncies, Food, and Fun!

JOIN US FOR AN

EASTER EGG HUNT

HIGHLAND BAPTIST

CANDY - CRAFTS - LUNCH
APRIL 4TH | 11:00AM
OPEN TO KIDS 5TH GRADE AND UNDER



HBCSHELBYVILLE.COM

Student Ministry



Student Missions Camp 2026

July 13th - 17th
Crossings on Mission
Newport, TN

\$75 Deposit due by February 21st
Open to those finishing 6th -12th grade



Go Fund

Goals

1. Make camp more affordable for families.
2. Empower students to grow through ministry.
3. Opportunity for church to support student ministry.

Requirements

1. Read the selected book and participate in a group discussion.
2. Memorize selected passages of scripture.
3. Interview 3 adults from our church about their life as a Christian.

Easter - Save The Date!

EASTER

Good Friday
April 3rd 7:00PM

Egg Hunt
April 4th 11:00AM

Sunday Morning - April 5th
Potluck 8:30AM | Sunday School 9:15AM | Service 10:30AM

**Christ is
risen!**

**He is risen,
indeed!**

Christian Passover Seder

Saturday, March 28 at 6:00pm

More details coming!

Contact Angela Owens or
the church office to volunteer



EasterNow
Phone App



Apple
App
Store



Google
Play
Store

Experience the events of Passion week in real time. EasterNow provides step-by-step notification of Easter events and locations from Palm Sunday until Easter Sunday.



Announcements

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

February 4 at 6:00pm

To address the problem of water getting into the gym area of the church building.

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

March 11 at 6:00pm



Christian Widow and Widower Support Group Finding Hope and Healing Together

1st Thursday of each month
2:00pm
Highland Baptist Church

Contact Todd Claypool at
(502) 321-9587 or
todd.claypool@capernaumcare.org



2026 Spring Semi Annual Meeting NORTH CENTRAL BAPTIST NETWORK

Sunday, March 15
Simpsonville Baptist Church
7208 Shelbyville Rd
Simpsonville

Pray for the area leadership
as they review the past year,
train/encourage one
another, and plan for the
year ahead.

Men's Breakfast

Feb. 21
March 21
8:00am



Shelby Touched Twice
Saturday, March 21, 2026
Shelbyville First Baptist Church
10:00am to 4:00pm

502-437-9437
shelbytouchedtwice@gmail.com
Facebook: Shelby Touched Twice
Venmo: Shelby Touched-Twice
www.shelbytouchedtwice.com

VBS Training

March 21st

Ninth and O Baptist, Louisville

Learn more about all areas of
VBS and Kids Ministry

Open to everyone

Introduction to KYDR & Ministry Area Training

March 21 - First Baptist Church, Henderson, KY
April 25 - Crosswoods Baptist Church, Nicholasville, KY
September 12 - First Baptist Church, Shelbyville, KY
October 10 - First Baptist Church, Russell, KY



\$40 for New and Recredentialing Volunteers
Free for Cross-Training Volunteers

Training Fee includes lunch, badge,
background check, and training materials

Register online at
<https://www.kybaptist.org/disaster-relief/>

Feb & March CALENDAR

Feb 1 After church - Deacon meeting
12:00pm Be Our Guest visitor meal

Feb 4 6:00pm Special Called Business Meeting

Feb 5 2:00pm Widow/Widower Support Group

Feb 7 8:00am Real Men Discipleship
9:00am Upward games
10:00am Focus On WMU Brunch

Feb 9 1:00pm WMU, all women welcome

Feb 14 8:00am Real Men Discipleship
9:00am Upward games

Feb 15 After church Kids Hangout in gym

Feb 16 Chris preaching at Alton Baptist Church,
- HBC's former pastor Gary Ellcessor's church

Feb 20 6:30pm Ladies' Friday Night Fellowship

Feb 21 8:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
9:00am Upward games

Feb 28 8:00am Men's Bible study
9:00am Upward games

Mar 1-8 Week of Prayer for North American Missions

Mar 1 After church - Deacon meeting
6:00pm Upward Celebration

Mar 5 2:00pm Widow/Widower Support Group

Mar 7 8:00am Real Men Discipleship

Mar 8 Daylight Savings - Spring forward
Communion
12:00pm Church-wide Potluck

Mar 9 1:00pm WMU, all women welcome

Mar 9 Reach Conference, Louisville

Mar 11 6:00pm Quarterly Business Meeting

Mar 14 8:00am Real Men Discipleship

Mar 15 4:30pm NCBN Spring Meeting worship service

Mar 17 12:00pm Senior Adults, Mike Linnig restaurant

Mar 20 TBD - Ladies' Friday Night Fellowship

Mar 21 8:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
Touched Twice Clinic at First Baptist Church
VBS Training in Louisville

Mar 28 8:00am Real Men Discipleship
6:00pm Passover Seder

Mar 29 Palm Sunday

Happy Anniversary!

- John & Janet Gardner - 2/01
- Alan & Sabrina Jare - 2/01
- Jon & Misty Auten - 2/03
- Bill & Regina Seabolt - 2/28



Happy Anniversary!

- Wesley & Donna Hedges - 3/4
- Logan & Samantha Johnson - 3/17
- Mel & Gina Nelson - 3/22
- Don & Traci Hargadon - 3/30



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Anthony Garcia - 2/01
Mike Vickers - 2/01
Regina Cox - 2/02
Hannah Yates - 2/03
Jim Smith - 2/04
Betty Goodridge - 2/07
Greg Lanham - 2/07
Donna Whitis - 2/09
Vicky Clemmons - 2/10
Dottye Smith - 2/12
Larry Baker - 2/13
Tammy Baker - 2/13
Joyce Cornett - 2/13



Joyce Cornett - 2/13
Judy Stivers - 2/13
Jeff Scott - 2/14
Jennifer Land - 2/16

Nancy Ruble - 2/16
Janelle Swigert - 2/16
Barbara Doggette - 2/19
Teresa Wallace - 2/20
Tim Babb - 2/21
Vivian Baker - 2/21
Linnsey Joslin - 2/22
Kenny Laceyfield - 2/22
Sarah Mattingly - 2/23
Michelle Yount - 2/24
Laurie Lawson - 2/25
Chris Platt - 2/25
Lyndsey Wood - 2/27

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Shirley Brown - 3/2
Traci Hargadon - 3/2
Thor Melanson - 3/2
Abigail Rames - 3/2
Missy McCray - 3/3
Heidi Burner - 3/5
Donna Miles - 3/5
McKinley Newton - 3/10
Julie Scholl - 3/13
Jude Wood - 3/13
David Cupp - 3/14
Terry Hockensmith - 3/17



Eli Harkey - 3/18
Emma Cupp - 3/18
Emma Cupp - 3/18
Tammy Satterly - 3/19
Liz Yount - 3/19

Carol Collett - 3/20
Terry Douthitt - 3/20
Gunner Gelnett - 3/20
Randee Shirley - 3/20
William Clark - 3/21
Steve Yount - 3/21
Addie Cupp - 3/23
JudyAnn Owens - 3/26
Anita Mosley - 3/28
Melissa Rames - 3/28
Tom Pedigo - 3/29
Chris Land - 3/30
Ansley Scott - 3/31

Highland Baptist Church
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PO Box 104
Shelbyville, KY 40066-0104
502-633-3516



www.hbcshelbyville.com



HBC Shelbyville



@hbcshelbyville



Phone app: Highland Baptist Church Shelbyville



Our mission is to make
disciples by engaging
people with the
transformative gospel of
Jesus Christ.



For the glory of God alone!



Highland
BAPTIST CHURCH