

# HIGHLAND CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 2016

*Highland Church reaches out in the name of Jesus Christ building disciples with vision for ministry.*

Rick Warren says, "Leadership without love is manipulation." What a statement! God's love places great value on you and me. God's love, described in Greek as *agape* love places no limits on its object. It gives and gives and gives and gives all there is to give. There is no limit to Christ's love for the church and neither should there be for ours.

Here are some notes that I have gathered through the years through sermons and commentaries.

The object of Christ's love and the love of a growing Christian is the church. The Greek word for church is *ekklesia*. The prefix, *ek* means "out" or "out of." The suffix, *kaleo* means "to call." In its most basic sense, *ekklesia* means "the called out." The New Testament uses *ekklesia* in two ways. First, there is the general sense, referring to all believers of this age, all the redeemed. We see it used this way in Ephesians 5:25 which says, "**Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her.**" However, most of the time the New Testament uses the word "church" in a local sense, referring to a particular fellowship of believers in one locality. For example there is the church of Antioch or the church at Corinth or even Highland Church in Paducah, Kentucky. The local church is a visible, tangible representation of the eternal church that is being gathered in heaven (Heb.12:23). We are to love all believers everywhere, but we are especially to love the believers of our local church with whom we share our lives.

So we must ask the question: *how do we love the church?* Many pastors would be tempted to answer that question in one word: ATTENDANCE! They would camp out on Hebrews 10:24-25 and preach their whole sermon from that text... why not? It's worth a look, let's turn there!

**"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."**

What can we quickly learn here? Let me point out a few key instructions:

We are to "**consider one another.**" We are to be thinking about one another, fellowshiping with one another, not living in isolation from each other all week and only seeing each other on Sunday mornings.

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We are to look for ways to "**stir up**" [used in reference to spurring a horse] one another in "**love and good works.**"

We are not to be "**forsaking the assembling of ourselves together.**" We are not to just blow off public worship, Bible studies and fellowship times. We don't want to be like "**some**" in that day who were negative examples. Rather we are to be present and to be "**exhorting one another.**"

We are to realize that the necessity of the church grows greater as the world grows darker and "**the Day,**" the day of God's judgment draws nearer.

Okay then, attendance should be a given. Attendance is the bare minimum sign of love for the church. What are the real signs of love for the church?

Help me out here. I have only been here for a few months and I feel so blessed to be part of a church that really loves people and want to grow. So, what does loving Highland look like to you? I know Christ is the head and we are His body. What intentional ways do you love His church? Attendance is a given so what are the ways you go about doing this? Please let me know. I will be waiting to hear your feedback!

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## **CPWM**

CPWM met Monday, April 4th in the Fellowship Hall. Sidney Milton shared all the submissions she has received for our **new directory**. They are impressive, and we are so proud of the ones we have received. We then focused on the remainder of our members that are listed in our old directory. **We have planned a cut-off date for Sunday, May 8th.** If you are still working on your page or need our help, please contact Sidney Milton or Elaine Overton. There will be a back page that will list names and contact information for members who did not submit information. We are very proud of this project and are looking forward to the finished product. Your input and financial help will be greatly appreciated.

We discussed upcoming CPWM meetings and made plans to attend our Regional Meeting Saturday, April 16th at Mt. Carmel CP Church in White Plains, KY. The CPWM 2016 Convention will be in Nashville, TN June 20-23. We have several members who will be attending this great week of worship, education, fellowship, and service. We voted to give \$100.00 to the Least Coin Offering to be taken at the Regional Meeting and to give \$100.00 to the Convention Offering for the Stott-Wallace Missionary Fund.

Our next meeting will be Monday, May 2nd in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. We will be getting our directory ready for printing and are so excited to be this close to the finished product! Those who attended Regional Meeting will be giving a report of that outstanding meeting. We will also be planning a fundraiser for the Stott-Wallace Missionary Fund. It is going to be a really fun event! Hope to see all of you on May 2nd!!

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## **Session Notes**

At the April meeting, the session agreed to

- Make a \$150 donation to the Covenant Presbytery Widows Fund in honor of our mothers.
- Have a dinner honoring our graduating high school seniors Sunday evening, May 22
- Award each senior a Chester and Emma Cathey Scholarship
- Allow CPWM to have a fundraiser for the Stott-Wallace Missionary Fund to be collected Pentecost Sunday, May 15
- Approve vacation for Bro. Bud Oct. 9-15

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## **Summer schedule**

June 20-24 – General Assembly & CPWM

June 26-July 1 – Covenant Presbytery Sr. High  
And Junior Camps

June 26-July 1 – CPYC for high schoolers at  
Bethel University in McKenzie, TN

July 5, 6, 7 – VBS at Highland

July 9 – Children's Fest for K-6 graders at  
Bethel University

July 19-23 – Presbyterian Youth Triennium for  
High schoolers at Perdue University

July 24-29 – Jr. High Camp (rising 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>  
graders)

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## **April Numbers**

Stewardship Report April 2016

Receipts	\$ 16,404.50
Disbursements	\$ 13,280.40

## **Attendance Record**

Morning Worship

April 3 – 54

April 10 – 77

April 17 – 70

April 24 – 67

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## **Welcome New Members**

Steve and Marilyn White joined the Highland family April 17. Their address is 208 Windmere, Paducah, KY 42001

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## **May Calendar**

May 2 – CPWM, 10:00 a.m.

May 8 – Mother’s Day

May 15 – Session Meeting, 2:00 p.m.

May 22 – Graduation Dinner and  
Scholarship presentations, 6:00 p.m.

## **May Elders**

Elaine Kaye, Dean Kauffman

## **May Ushers:**

Jeff Yates, Ronnie Parker

May Parker, Tanner Parker

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## **12 Trends found in healthy churches**

The congregations have membership that matters. Are our people important to each other and is the world important to our people?

## **May Birthdays**

1 – Alissa Gannaway

5 – Marlene Wallace

6 – Madeline Wooten

17 – Shanna Cornwell

Miranda Cooper

Lauren Parker

Emma Grace Cooper

22 – Tina Gamble

Tanner Parker

25 – Cooper Hill

27 – Rob Gannaway

28 – Gini Cunningham

29 – Phyllis Hammonds

Harriet Ballow

30 – Pat McDonald

## **May Anniversaries**

7 – Tyler and Lauren Parker

19 – Terry and Loretta Vasseur

21 – Randy and Cindy Robertson

26 – Ed and Barb Dolezal

31 – Casey and Carrie McKee

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**Stott Wallace Mission Fund**

The Stott-Wallace Mission Fund, named for two prominent and long time missionaries, has been established by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to support current and future missionaries. As requested, we will collect this offering on Pentecost Sunday which marks the work of the Holy Spirit and the spreading of the Gospel into all parts of the world.