

HIGHLAND CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 2020

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

Matthew 5:1-12 begins a discourse by Jesus in what we now call "The Sermon on the Mount." In these first few verses, Jesus defines the spiritual joy/blessings of those who share in the salvation of the Kingdom of heaven: Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, who are meek, who hunger and thirst for righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, those who are persecuted because of righteousness. Each of these Beatitudes has its own reward or blessing; but v. 12 summarizes the complete gift, "Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven."

Living the life we are called by Christ to live, exhibiting these Christian traits is what makes each of us a living Saint. Paul and other writers of the New Testament often referred to the living members of the church as saints. Paul opens his letter to the Colossians with, "To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints"

As we celebrate All Saints' Day, Sunday, November 1, we remember it is not as much a celebration of the lives of people who have passed away; it is a celebration of all people who are walking faithfully with Christ! It is a celebration of all who have experienced poverty, hunger, grief, and hatred because of the gospel. It is a celebration of those who love their enemies in the way that Jesus calls to live as his followers and disciples.

The kingdom that Jesus preached and lived was all about radical and absurd selflessness. When we too, put off the ways of the world and submit to his lordship, we receive the blessings promised.

One piece of good news is, we don't have to wait for eternity to receive these blessings. Blessings abound even here on earth. Take a moment to think of the very best thing you can do for a person most in need and actually do it! That's what Christ is calling us to do in these words recorded by Matthew! There will be a blessing. Or try this one, people to whom you are tempted to be vindictive toward, give them forgiveness and love. It's hard to offer an earnest prayer for someone you dislike; over time those barriers will break and love will triumph.

Jesus would not ask these things of us if they were not possible. We can celebrate All Saints' Day with all living and past Christ-followers who have done these very things!

CPWM

CPWM met Monday October 5 in the Fellowship Hall. Sidney Milton presented our Bible study of the month on the prophetess, Huldah. Most of us remembered hearing the name in the Bible, but none of us could remember where. It was a very interesting and informative study. Do you know the story of Huldah? It can be found in 2 Kings 22:14-20. In the business portion of our meeting, we finalized plans for the Lip Sync, auction and meal. In other news, we are working on a project to uplift our members spirits at the start of 2021. Jeanne and Velva Mullen were quick to take up this effort. Thank you ladies!

Our next meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall Monday, November 2 at 10:00 a.m. We asked Marlene Wallace to present our Bible study and assigned her Leah. Please join us as we study and learn about this woman's important part of Jewish history!

Finally, we extend our **sincere thanks** to all the people who made our Stott-Wallace Lip Synch and auction fundraiser such a success! We found out that a live auction is much more exciting than a silent auction! We raised \$3,035.00 to add to the \$3,000.00 we sent them earlier in the year. Highland Church is amazing! CDs of the evening are available for \$10. Velva Mullen will take your order.

Session Highlights

Items approved at the October meeting

- Participate in the Loaves and Fishes offering
 - 2020 Barbeque on the River disbursements of the \$3,269.27 profit
 - Toys for Tots
 - Nate's Wish
 - Martha's Vineyard
 - October 1 report from the Task Force regarding return to Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary
 - Suspend Children's Church through December 31
 - Melissa Dumes to make a recommendation regarding alternate plans for our participation in the Christmas Parade.
 - Maintenance Committee expenditures for painting the outside Outreach Center stairs and purchase filters and make a storage space for all the Church HVAC systems.
 - Proposal from Reed Electric to replace the electrical riser cable into the Outreach Center in the amount of \$350.00.
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October Numbers

Financial Record as of October 26

income - \$ 17,450.41
expenses - \$ 15,570.87

Attendance

October 4 - 57
October 11 - 74
October 18 - 74
October 25 - 47

November Calendar

November 2 - CPWM, 10:00 am
November 15 - Session Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
November 18 - Adult Bible Trivia, 6:00 p.m.
November 19 - Highlanders
November 29 - First Sunday of Advent

Ushers – Debby Hughes, Jeff Parker
Tyler and Lauren Parker,

Elder - Marlene Wallace

LOAVES AND FISHES

Once again, it is time for us to pass out our boxes for the Loaves and Fishes Offering that is used to feed the hungry. We know that as a result of the pandemic, many people are struggling to feed their families. This year's offering will go to those impacted by Covid-19. The Missions Ministry Team is requesting that 75% of the offering be donated to a local foodbank. The other 25% will be sent to Guatemala and the Philippines where the need is great. The boxes will be distributed November 1 and collected Thanksgiving Sunday, November 22. Let's make an effort to fill all our boxes to the max!!

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

We have agreed to participate in providing Holiday assistance for 10 McCracken County High School students. We will be assigned names, and gifts will be predominantly gift cards. Highland has been a part of this Christmas ministry for several years, and our youth look forward to shopping and wrapping gifts for these students. If you or your Sunday School class would like to participate, please contact Laura DeHart.

Novmember Birthdays

- 1 – Mason Wooten
- 5 - Melissa Dumes
 - Rev. John Rogers
 - Tammy Wood
- 7 - Cindy Robertson
- 8 - Emily Johnson Ferrer
- 9 – Rev. Doug Hughes
- 10 - Suzanna Stoll Szabo
- 12 - Madelyn Kauffman
- 13 - Roddy Johnson
- 17 – Haley Russell Camp
- 19 - Tracy Chessor
- 21 - Gregg Stoll
- 25 - Tina Dodd
- 26 - Jere Hammonds

November Anniversaries

- 6 – Harold and Bernice Belt
- 15 – Steve and Diane Shrewsberry