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## HIGHLAND CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**March 2021**

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

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1*

I like having seasons. I like the change in temperature, scenery, and activities the changes of the year brings. We can use the changes of the seasons as opportunities to look back and reflect on how or what we can do better. I am not one of those who believes if it is not broken, don't fix it. We update our houses, update our vehicles, update our wardrobes, etc. If we can update those tangible items, why not update our spirits as well? The same can be true of the Church. In short, when there is no improvement, there is no growth.

It has been hard this past year to move forward and make improvements because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Hopefully, with the vaccine, an end to this virus is on the horizon. The restrictions of the past year have made it difficult to meet for Sunday School, worship, and fellowship. As a pastor, hospital and other visitations have had to take a back seat. I know you are as equally excited to get back to normal as I am.

I believe we have concluded that even though things have been a challenge, we know that God has been and always will be in control. God is at work in all of this mess. We may not understand what is going on, but we should always trust Him for He is faithful and just. According to Romans 8:28, when things happen to us as Christian, we know that God works for the good of those who love Him. So then, how do we respond? Do we find the good, dwell on the bad, or maybe find a healthy middle and use that as a motivation to make improvements. One of two things can happen when adverse situations happen: we become bitter or better!

As you grow in Christ and seek his plan for your life, allow God to fill you with His Spirit. Use the excitement of returning to fellowship with the body of Christ as a point to rededicate yourself to His will and agenda. Plan with purpose and enthusiasm to make this Spring a season of overcoming and renewed growth. With God's leadership, our devotion to his call and discipleship, we can begin to see improvements in our lives, our spirits, our minds, and our Church.

## **CPWM**

CPWM met Monday, February 1st in the Fellowship Hall. We had a joyful meeting even though we were socially distanced. Jeanne Mullen brought the Proverbs 31 Women to life in a presentation of our Women of the Bible series. She compared her to the early ministry of Jesus, and as a bonus, Jeanne outlined how each of us in CPWM use their gifts in serving God. Thank you so much!

Our next meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall Monday, March 1st at 10:00 a.m. As we move into Lent, we will be discussing things we can do during this time to focus on repentance and the remembrance of the life and suffering of Christ. Velva Mullen will be telling us the story of Abigail.

Please join us for this morning of fellowship!

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## **Session Highlights**

Items approved at the February meeting

- Designate Sunday, March 7th as Bethel Sunday and give the congregation the opportunity to contribute to Bethel University.
  - Bro. Bud to schedule a meeting with the deacons and begin training.
  - Hold a Session Retreat to include working on our Mission Statement.
  - Elaine Overton will serve as our delegate to Presbytery to be held March 20th.
  - Updated scholarship application for the Emma and Chester Cathey Scholarship Fund. It will be effective for the 2022-23 school year.
  - Donate \$500.00 to Jeremy Lee - former Highland Youth Director who has developed a brain tumor
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## **January Numbers**

Financial Record as of February 22, 2021

income - \$ 14,087.00

expenses - \$ 10,214.08

## **Attendance**

February 7 - 47

February 14 - No service, ice cancelled

February 21 - 62

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## **March Calendar**

March 1 - CPWM, 10:00 a.m.

March 7 - Bethel University Sunday, morning worship

March 14 - Daylight Savings Time begins, move clocks ahead

March 21 - Session Meeting, 2:00 p.m.

March 28 - Palm Sunday

April 1 - Maundy Thursday service

**Ushers** – Steve and Diane Shrewsberry  
Melissa and Abe Dumes

**Elder** - Melissa Dumes

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**Paducah Cooperative Ministry food item**   crackers

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**Scripture readings** If you are interested in devoting more time to studying God's Word during the season on Lent, here are some scriptures to help. Before you read, pray that God will allow you, through His Spirit, insight for deeper meaning and a way to commune with Him.

Week of February 28 - Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Psalm 22:23-31;  
Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

Week of March 7 - Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19;  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

Week of March 14 - Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3,17-22;  
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Week of March 21 - Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12;  
Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

Sunday, March 28 - Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 31:9-16;  
Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47

You can also find devotion readings written by Cumberland Presbyterians at <https://Cumberland.org>. Click on the "Ministries" tab at the top of the Home page, then scroll to the middle of the page and find "eVotions."

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### ***March Birthdays***

2- Michelle Wooten  
3 – Jan Keen  
8 – Nick Ferrer  
15 – Nancy Finnell  
17 – Seth Hill  
20 – Andrew Cunningham  
24 – Diane Shrewsberry  
28 – Molly Gannaway

### **March Anniversaries**

5 – Clint and Brenda Cunningham  
16 – Dick and Elaine Kaye