

HIGHLAND CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 2023

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

Another new year is upon us. While none of us know what circumstances we will experience in 2023, we do know that God is in control even when the world seems to be out of control. Let's look at two scriptures from the letters of Paul in which he admonishes his readers to remember the suffering of Christ, how they may be called to suffer as well, and how their suffering will increase their faith and develop them into proper citizens prepared for heaven.

Philippians 1:27-30 ²⁷"Above all, you must **live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ**. Then, whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one purpose, fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News. ²⁸Don't be intimidated in any way by your enemies. This will be a sign to them that they are going to be destroyed, but that you are going to be saved, even by God himself. ²⁹For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him. ³⁰We are in this struggle together. You have seen my struggle in the past, and you know that I am still in the midst of it." (NLT)

Galatians 2:20 ²⁰"My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (NLT)

These words challenged his original audience and continue to challenge present day readers to understand that everything we do should represent the Kingdom of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Don't get me wrong, Paul's first priority is for all to come to a saving knowledge of Jesus as Lord and Savior. But he also sees the big picture, life goes on AFTER repentance and renewal. That's his focus in these (and many other) passages. We are renewed and we should live as such. We are now to live as one who is worthy to spend eternity with the King.

As a minister, I can tell you that seeing God use people who have adjusted their lives for the purpose of God's agenda is one of the many blessings I have received through the years. I've known some who have made a complete surrender to the call of Christ and put off the "Old Self". Most transformations however, come from those who simply rededicate their lives to live in closer fellowship and discipleship with Christ. No matter the case, they have allowed their lives to be "worthy of the gospel."

The new year is a good time to re-evaluate your individual relationship with Jesus and the body of believers as a whole. Examine each aspect through the lens of doing it for the glory of God. What changes in your priorities or commitments are needed? In what area do you need to be more disciplined? As you adjust your life to God, realizing He is guiding and directing, you will begin receiving His blessings which give a greater sense of peace and joy. As a whole, the body will be raised up in victory as we receive God's amazing grace at work in the life of the church.

Women's Ministry

CPWM ladies want to thank those who attended our Christmas Dinner. It is such a joyful way to begin the Advent Season. Our CPWM ladies also distributed large stockings stuffed with presents to our shut-ins during December. Delivering them is such a blessing!

Let's start our new year with a planning meeting on Monday, January 9th, weather permitting. We will be studying another woman from the Bible and talking about activities for 2023. Please join us with your ideas!!

Session Highlights

Items approved at the December Meeting:

- Proposed budget for 2023 in the amount of \$245,271.00 as presented by the Finance Committee

December Numbers

Financial Record as of December 28

income - \$ 30,189.00

expenses - \$ 17,215.56

Attendance

December 4 - 82

December 11 - 84

December 18 - 81

December 25 - 80

January Calendar

January 4 - Wednesday activities resume

January 8 - Elder Installation, morning worship

January 9 - CPWM, 10:00 a.m.

January 10 - Discipleship class resumes

January 13-16 - Youth travel to graceConvo 23

January 15 - Session Meeting, 2:00 p.m.

January 19 - Highlanders

January 28 - Baby Shower, Lindsay LaBlanc

Ushers – Johnny Overton, Ray Massie

Jimmy Russell, Wayne Coleman

Elder - Jeanne Mullen

Baby Showers

Linsday (Gamble) and Travis LaBlanc

Saturday, January 28

2:00 -4:00

They are registered at babylist.com - you can look for "Lindsay's Baby Registry" or search for their names

She's having a BOY

Haley (Russell) and Zachary Camp

Saturday, February 4

2:00-4:00

They are registered at Amazon

She's having a GIRL

Thank You

We want to send a heartfelt thank you to our church family for each expression of love we received this Christmas! Our hearts are full of gratitude and love for each of you.

We are grateful that God has allowed us to walk this journey with some amazing people and we look forward to all He has in store for us in 2023.

Happy New Year family!! We love you all!

Bro. Bud and Pam

Youth News

High School Sunday School - Our high school Sunday School class will begin a study on the Confession of Faith January 8. If you know of any youth who would benefit from this study, please encourage them to join us for Sunday school!

Dress Like Your Parent Night - Dress like your mom or dad and join us as we kick off our 2023 Wednesday evening programming on January 4!

Counter Culture - Youth in 6th-12th Grade will begin a new study Wednesday, January 4. Join us as we learn how to love like Christ while standing firm on the truth of His Word.

grace CONVO 23 - Our youth are going to graceCONVO January 12-16. Be in prayer for them as we prepare for our trip!

Winter JAM - Save the date for WinterJAM 2023. 6th-12th Grade will travel to Nashville for this event on February 3, 2023. More details soon!

January Birthdays

9 – Joanne Robinson

10 – Suzanne Goehman

13 – Jamie Gamble

Matt Stowell

16 – Ashlee Bryan

20 – Bob Gross

23 – Brandon Cooper

27 – Carlin Davidson

28 – Velva Mullen

30 – Ethan Olmeda

January Anniversaries

6 - Tanner and Samantha Parker

12 – Happy and Mary Katherine Rudolph
(1951)

27 - Gregg and Bettie Stoll

HAPPY NEW YEAR

"In the Beginning God created.."

What will God create in you this
year?