

# HIGHLAND CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**January 2024**

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

It's amazing how time seems to slip through our fingers, isn't it? Every year, we find ourselves asking, "Where did the year go?" Time holds immense importance for each and every one of us.

As we reflect on the passing of another year, it's worth noting that time was created specifically for us. While God is eternal, we exist in this earthly realm where time governs our lives. We cannot create more time; we are limited to 24 hours in a day. However, God has given us this precious gift of time to ensure that we prioritize what truly matters. Being good stewards of our time means understanding that busyness does not equate to productivity or fulfillment. Instead, it's about how we choose to spend our time. God has created us with a purpose and entrusted us with a specific amount of time, it becomes clear that our focus should be on fulfilling His plans for our lives.

Sometimes I find myself contemplating how many days I have left and if I have used my time for the glory of God. As a parent, I want nothing but the best for my children; however, there is an internal struggle between wanting them to enjoy their time and ensuring they understand that life is not solely about having fun.

So here lies the question: What is truly the best use of our time? How can we effectively convey to our families that time is a precious commodity and how we spend it can make an eternal difference?

Ecclesiastes 3:1 reads "*For everything there is an appointed time and an appropriate time for every activity on earth.*" This verse reminds us that there is divine timing behind everything under heaven. When caught between the constraints of finite human existence and the infinite nature of eternity, remember that eternal redemption gives hope. Our actions in this life hold significance; they matter deeply. The work we do in the name of Jesus, guided by God's enduring purpose, is never in vain. The same God who has placed eternity within our hearts will ultimately bring beauty to all things, even those that may seem lost or broken.

Embrace the gift of time and use it wisely, prioritize what truly matters and make a positive impact on others' lives. As we journey through life, remember that our labor is not in vain; it has eternal implications.

In His perfect timing, God will make everything beautiful.

### **Women's Ministry**

CPWM started the Advent Season with our Christmas dinner on Monday, December 4th. The Fellowship Hall was filled with 58 women enjoying delicious food and warm fellowship. We were thrilled to have a number of women who play pickleball in the gym on Wednesday mornings joining us. The feedback from the night has been very encouraging. Thank you so much Melissa Dumes for inviting this wonderful group of ladies.

Our next meeting will be held Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m.

Please join us as we make plans for 2024. We have tentatively set our first potluck for Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the birthday of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. More details will be shared later in January.

### **Session Highlights**

At the December Session Meeting we voted to:

- Approve the 2024 Budget in the amount of \$255,661.00.
  - Approve members of the Member Care Committee: Mike Golightly, Chairman, Velva Mullen, Recorder, Jeanne Mullen, Wayne Coleman, Pam Russell, Marnie Parker, Cindy Robertson, and Randy Robertson.
  - Upon recommendation of the Member Care Committee, place a prayer log in the Narthex, and use the Donation Center in the Fellowship Hall for Blessing Box, Toys for Tots, and Christmas Shoebox donations.
  - Expressed Sincere thanks to Melissa Dumes and Jeff Parker for their years of service as elders.
- 

**A Note of Thanks** Bro. Bud and Pam would like everyone to know they are truly appreciative for all the notes, cards and gifts they received for Christmas. The members of this church are a blessing to them.

---

### **December Numbers**

Financial Record as of December 28

income \$ 37,640.70

expenses \$ 22,167.24

### **Attendance**

December 3 - 72

December 10 - 74

December 17 - 92

December 24 - 101

---

### **January Calendar**

January 7 - Evening Worship resumes, 5:00 p.m.

January 8 - CPWM, 10:00

January 9 - Discipleship Class, 6:00 pm

January 12 15 - Youth Winter Retreat, Branson

January 18 - Highlanders

January 21 - Session Meeting, 2:00

Exercise Tuesdays at 5:30 and Saturdays at 10:00

Pickleball Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.; Saturdays at 2:00  
Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m.

Scouts Mondays 6:30-7:30, the gym

**January Ushers** Johnny Overton, Jimmy Russell  
Steve and Diane Shrewsberry

**January Elder** Jeanne Mullen

### **YOUTH NEWS**

**Nerd Nite** Join us January 3, 6PM-7:30 PM! Youth in 6th-12th grade are invited to come dressed in their favorite nerd apparel. Come ready to nerd out!

**Winter Retreat** Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to our retreat in Branson, MO January 12-15, 2024. Cost is \$50 for regular attendees and \$275 for guests. See Elizabeth if you would like to register.

---

**Opportunities for Giving** You may donate items throughout the year. The **Drop Box** is located in the Fellowship Hall - it's the red wagon.

**Blessing Box** Non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products, NEEDED ITEMS: vegetables, meal-in-a-can, breakfast cereals, PopTarts, Baby food

**School Supplies**

**Toys for Tots**

**Operation Christmas Child**

---

**Loaves and Fishes** and **Gift to the the King Offerings**

Twenty Five percent of the annual Loaves and Fishes offering stayed with the Highland CPWM. They contributed their share of \$229.20 to Family Services Society for the Christmas for Seniors program. The remaining 75% (\$687.59) was sent to Venezuelan Refugee Children through the denominations Missions Ministry Team. Our total offering was \$916.78, and we thank you for your generous support.

The Gift to the King offering collected during the Children's Christmas Program totaled \$1,001.00. This offering goes toward purchase of facilities for two congregations, one in Brazil and the other in Guatemala.

---

**Prayer Request Record** The Member Care Committee has placed a prayer request book in the Narthex (front entry). If you have prayer requests, visitation needs, etc. please leave a message in the book.

---

**Directories**

The CPWM has exhausted the inventory of the Highland Church Directory. In the future, we will prepare the **directories as needed**. Therefore, if you would like to update your original page, please contact Sidney Milton with the information. If you have never provided information for a page, now would be a good time to do so. One other thing - many of the pictures do not portray your family members as they are now, especially the ones with children. If you would like to have an up-to-date picture for your page, that can also be sent to Sidney. Any pages that are changed will replace the old ones when the new directories are printed. You can email Sidney at [sidney.milton@gmail.com](mailto:sidney.milton@gmail.com)

## **January Birthdays**

9 – Joanne Robinson  
10 – Suzanne Goehman  
13 – Jamie Gamble  
Matt Stowell  
16 – Ashlee Bryan  
23 - Brandon Cooper  
27 - Carlin Davidson  
28 – Velva Mullen  
30 – Ethan Olmeda

## **January Anniversaries**

6 - Tanner and Samantha Parker  
27 - Gregg and Bettie Stoll