

The back-to-school season is here and with it comes new opportunities, challenges, and blessings. Whether you are a student going into a new grade, a teacher setting up your classroom, or a parent supporting and encouraging your child, each can, in their own way, experience renewal and purpose.

Returning to school offers a chance to embrace new beginnings and even amid uncertainty and change, there is solace in knowing God walks alongside us, guiding our steps and lighting our path.

For you students, approach this school year with continued desire for discovery and growth. Engage each lesson with curiosity and each challenge with resilience. Remember that your worth is not defined by grades or achievements, but by the love and grace of our Creator.

Teachers, find joy in shaping young minds and nurturing hearts. Your dedication and passion inspire generations to dream, learn, and become the best versions of themselves. Find strength in knowing that your work is a ministry of love and transformation.

Parents, be a source of strength and support for your children. As you entrust them to new teachers and experiences continue to pray for their safety, growth, and wisdom. Your prayers and encouragement are powerful tools which shape the foundation of their journey.

Remember the words of Jeremiah 29:11, *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* Hold onto this promise as you navigate the seas of change and growth. Embrace each day with gratitude and hope knowing that God's presence is with us every step of the way.

P.S. This would be a good time to start back to Sunday School, if you haven't been attending.

## **Women's Ministry**

We will meet for an 11:00 lunch Monday, August 5 at The House of Grace. All ladies are invited to join us.

## **Session Highlights**

At the July Session Meeting we approved:

- Revised edition of Outreach Center/gym rules and regulations
- Completed Welcome brochure. Ushers will give these to visitors.
- Request from MCHS girls volleyball team to be a hole sponsor in their upcoming golf fundraiser; donation of \$100.
- Ideas on alleviating front entrance congestion on Sunday mornings were discussed.
- Sunday School Breakfast - September 1

### **Highland T-Shirt design contest**

Get your creative energy flowing and help us come up with a new multipurpose Highland T-shirt. You can make your design front only or front and back.

In order to have shirts available for BBQ on the River, submissions are due to Laura DeHart or the church office by August 17. You can submit digitally or hand drawn.

The congregation will vote.

## **July Numbers**

Financial Record as of July 29

income \$ 20,248.25

expenses \$ 18,875.04

## **Attendance**

July 7 - 90

July 14 - 103

July 21 - 83

July 28 - 77

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## **August Calendar**

August 5 - CPWM lunch, House of Grace, 11:00

August 14 - Children and Youth

August 15 - Highlanders

August 18 - Session Meeting, 2:00 p.m.

Gym Reserved

Tuesdays- 5:00 p.m. Exercise

Thursdays - 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Pickleball

Saturdays - 10:00 am Exercise

1:00 - 3:00 Pickleball

**August Ushers** Ray Massie, Mike Haynes,  
Brenda Haynes, Jessica Mahan

**August Elder** Jeanne Mullen

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## Kids and Youth

Wednesday Evening activities resume

August 14th. We can't wait to see you!!

## Collections for August



## School Supplies

## August Birthdays

1 – Betty Rushing

5 – Carrie (Rushing) McKee

- 7 – Daniel Rushing
- 8 – Jimmy Russell
- 9 – Kathy Hill
- 11 – Jeff Parker
  - Dayton Kilgore
- 12 – Mike Golightly
- 13 – Loretta Vasseur
- 18 – Amy Rushing
  - Bo Rushing
- 24 – Leona Shelby
- 27 - Deanna Miller
- 28 - Claire Parker
- 29 – Nora Cunningham

### *August Anniversaries*

- 7 – Jeff and Lisa Parker
- 8 – Roddy and Linda Johnson
- 10 – David and Joanne Robinson
- 11 – Buddy and Ann Rushing
  - Steve and Carlin Davidson
- 17 - David and Tina Raper