





The Highland Evangel (USPS 243960) is published weekly except for the week of the Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas by the HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH 3400 27th Street, Meridian MS 39305. Telephone—601.482.0191 www.highlandbaptist.net
Periodical postage paid at Meridian, MS.
POSTMASTER: send address changes to The Highland Evangel, 3400 27th Street, Meridian, MS 39305.



February 5
February 6
February 7
February 8
February 9
February 10
February 11

Deuteronomy 7:12-26
Colossians 1:1-23
Colossians 1:24-2:5
Colossians 2:6-19
Colossians 2:20-3:17
Colossians 3:18-4:6
Colossians 4:7-18



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS February 5
Britt and Amy McElarty
Kawana, Aubrey & Allyn McCarty



Volume 64

February 5, 2023

Number 5

Coming Soon

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Sunday School	9:00 - 9:45 AM
Worship Service	10:00-11:00 AM
“Start Here” Lunch	11:30 AM

ADULT EXERCISE Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 8:30 AM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- Precept Bible Study
- Family Night Supper at 5:00 PM
MENU: Porkloin, Macaroni and Cheese, Green Beans, Salad,
Dessert

CHILDREN’S MENU: Hot Dogs or Chicken Nuggets

- Youth Worship (5:45-7:15 PM)
- Kidz WOW (5:45-7:15 PM)
- Prayer Meeting (6:00 PM)
- Adult Choir Rehearsal (7:00 PM)

OUR VISION STATEMENT

We want to see every member of the HBC family growing in Christlike character and on mission in our church, in our homes, in our city, and in our world.

FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR...

Is coming to church important? If you are reading this, then chances are you would say so. All recent statistics continue to show that church attendance is not important to most people. A Gallup poll revealed in 2021 that church attendance dropped below the majority (47%) for Americans for the first time in 80 years.¹ A study conducted by Lifeway Research found that in a 2019 survey over three denominations that more churches closed in 2019 than were started.² A 2020 Faith Communities Study revealed through studying 80 denominations over 20 years that church attendance has declined since 2000 from 137 average attendance to now 65.³ Even among professing Christians, the average person attends now about one time a month.

Church attendance has always been important. After Saul was converted on the road to Damascus he was baptized and then found a church. *Saul was with the disciples in Damascus for some time. Immediately he began proclaiming Jesus in the synagogues: "He is the Son of God" (Acts 9:19b-20, CSB).* Saul immediately found other believers to do life with and a church (synagogue) to meet with and proclaim Jesus. One of the main reasons why you and I need to be together on the Lord's Day is so we can remind one another again and again of who Jesus is: He is the Son of God." I love what J. Mack Stiles says in his book on evangelism, "We want a whole church that speaks of Jesus!" A whole church that speaks of Jesus is precisely why we need you here.

If you are not yet part of our church as a member (gospel partner), then what's stopping you? Don't let a fear of commitment keep you from joining what God is doing here at Highland. You are personally invited to check out who we are at our first START HERE lunch. Just check out the graphic below and then RSVP to the church office. Let's be a whole church who speaks of Jesus!

New Here?



¹ <https://news.gallup.com/poll/341963/church-membership-falls-below-majority-first-time.aspx>

² 3,000 churches were started and 4,500 closed. <https://research.lifeway.com/2021/05/25/protestant-church-closures-outpace-openings-in-u-s/>

³ <https://faithcommunitiestoday.org/fact-2020-survey/>

THIS IS US

JANUARY 15—MARCH 12, 2023!

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY ARE EXTENDED TO:

...Mrs. Kimi Ridinger in the death of her sister-in-law.

...Mickey Gavin in the death of his sister.

Our Goal—\$50,000.00

**LOTTIE MOON
CHRISTMAS
OFFERING®**

Given to date—\$35,556.50

STEWARDSHIP REPORT JANUARY 29, 2023			
Budget	11,499.50	CDC Req. to date	116,591.35
Budget Online Giving	5,848.40	(5@23,318.27)	
Designated	459.90	CDC Receipts to date	110,526.00
Designated Online Giving	380.00	CDC Deficit to date	6,065.35
CDC	110,526.00		
Total	128,713.80	SUNDAY SCHOOL	232
Budget Req. to date	128,315.40	WORSHIP	302
(5@ 25,663.08)			
Budget Receipts to date	96,619.53		
Budget Deficit to date	31,695.87		