as by the HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH 3400 27th Street, phone—601.482.0191 www.highlandbaptist.net

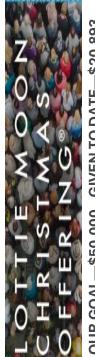
address changes to The Highland Evangel, 3400 27th Street, Meridian, MS 39305.







Gayle Threatt/Adam & Brooke Kitchens Holly Johnson December 22 Nursery Volunteers December 29 Volunteers od Hill/Corey Kelsi NURSERY 8 Dustin . Victor &







Building Relationships with Christ, One Another, and the World

Volume 65

December 22, 2024

Number 49

Coming Up!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

Sunday School (Growth Groups) Morning Worship Youth Open Gym

9:00 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM

NO ADULT EXERCISE December 23-27

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

- NO Brunch and Bible Study



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27 Offices Closed

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

Sunday School (Growth Groups) 9:00 AM Morning Worship 10:00 AM Observance of the Lord's Supper

NO ADULT EXERCISE December 30-January 3

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

- NO Brunch and Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1 Offices Closed/No Scheduled Activities

FROM OUR STUDENT AND CONNECTIONS PASTOR ...

Our life is made up of seasons. Some of them are widely accepted by all. The biggest example of this are the four seasons dictated by the weather: fall, winter, spring, and summer. If you were to ask 100 people what their favorite season was, you would get a pretty even mix of the four. I know just amongst your church staff, we're pretty evenly split on how we feel about being hot or cold which means some of us prefer summer while others prefer the cooler months. Some people prefer the season that they can bundle up, light a firepit, and roast marshmallows while others want to be able to swim in their pool day and night without it ever getting too cold. Some people want the season they can watch the leaves change colors and eventually fall out of the trees while others prefer to see the first bloom of the flowers in spring.

Some people, however, choose their favorite season not based on the weather, but on other variables. For example, my favorite seasons are football and baseball. Those were the two sports I played the most growing up. Those were the sports I enjoy watching live and on TV. Those are the sports I love the most. Therefore, my seasons are dictated not by weather, but by games I get to enjoy. Other people choose their favorite season of the year based on when they celebrate their birthday or anniversary.

Whatever your reason is, by definition, we choose our favorite season and celebrate it for a short period of time then move on and wait for it to come around again. Unfortunately, people treat Christmas like this as well. If you are someone who loves the Christmas season for the wrong reason, then your Christmas season ends after the holidays are over. If you love the Christmas season because you get time off from school/ work, then it will end when you go back. If you love the Christmas season because you get to see family you have not seen in a while, then it will end when everyone returns home. If you love the Christmas season because of the great food you get to enjoy, then it will end once you are full. If you love the Christmas season because of the gifts you get to receive, then it will end when the newness of your new toys wears off. All of these reasons carry a life expectancy and it is not very long. However, if our joy in this season is centered around the birth of Jesus, the understanding that he lived, was crucified, buried, resurrected, and is alive today, then we will never stop celebrating. We will never stop celebrating because Christ will always be alive. I encourage you to enjoy the rest of this season but be sure to never stop celebrating the birth of Christ because that birth led to life everlasting. From my family to all of you, we love you and we hope you have a Merry Christmas!!!!!

"AND THE LORD ADDED UNTO HIS CHURCH..." BY LETTER:

Mrs. Donna Greer (Pictured with Dr. Willie Greer) **525 Ponta Hills Road (39305)**

256-221-9313

Deacon: Jeremiah Mikell



A THANK YOU NOTE HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM: Veonne Howell.

THE VERY NEWEST

Congratulations to Mrs. Carolyn Neal on the birth of her great-grandson, John Samuel Dailey IV (Jack).

Congratulations to Scott Strickland and Megan Hartnett on the birth of their son, Theodore (Theo) Quinn Strickland.

The proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ed Strickland (Janet) and **Bob Majcher and Sharon Hartnett.**

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY ARE EXTENDED TO:

...the family of Mrs. Mary Carlisle.

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH MEMORIALS/HONORS

IN MEMORY OF JACK WILLIAMS:

Designated to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by:

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wilkerson

Designated to Highlanders by Chad and Sheila West

IN MEMORY OF MARY CARLISLE:

Designated to Go Fund Me Missions by:

Sharon Johnson

Strickland/Williams Sunday School Class

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wilkerson

Renee Smith

Highland Baptist Church
Designated to Highlanders by Chad and Sheila West
IN HONOR OF BARBARA ANDERSON/SONDRA MEDLIN/CAROLYN NEAL:

Designated to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by:

the Faith Sunday School Class



The 60 poinsettias in the Sanctuary **December 8-22** are in memory or honor of loved ones given by family and friends of Highland Baptist Church. Please pick up a booklet in the foyer that includes the complete list. Poinsettias should be picked up following the morning

worship service on December 22. Any remaining poinsettias will be given out following the Christmas Eve Service.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT DECEMBER 15, 2024

Giving to budget to date 1.041.928.06 Giving to budget (12/9-12/15) 34.300.28 **SUNDAY SCHOOL WORSHIP**

259 275