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February 23
February 24
February 25
February 26
February 27
February 28
March 1

Deuteronomy 4-6, Psalm 54
Deuteronomy 7-9, Psalm 55
Deuteronomy 10-12, Psalm 56
Deuteronomy 13-14, Psalm 57
Deuteronomy 15-16, Psalm 58
Deuteronomy 17-20, Psalm 59
Deuteronomy 21-23, Psalm 60



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS February 23

Britt and Amy McCarty
Mev Knight, Julie Blaine



Building Relationships with Christ, One Another, and the World

Volume 66

February 23, 2025

Number 7

Coming Up!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Growth Groups (Sunday School) 9:00 AM
Morning Worship 10:00 AM
Property Committee Meeting following morning worship in the Gambill Growth Group Class
By-Law/Constitution Revision Committee meeting following morning worship in the Neal Growth Group Class
Churchwide Personnel Committee Meeting regarding sabbatical policy for Senior Pastor at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY Adult Exercise at 8:30 AM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- **Brunch and Bible Study at 10:00 AM**
- Highlander's Meeting at noon
- Men's Bible Study at 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- Men's Bible Study at Dr. Britt McCarty's office at 5:30 AM
- Precept Bible Study
- Family Night Supper at 5:00 PM
- MENU: Chicken Fettucine Alfredo, Broccoli, Garlic Breadsticks, Salad, Dessert CHILDREN'S MENU: Chicken Nuggets or Hot Dogs
- Kidz WOW Large Group in the Rally Room at 5:30 PM
- Kidz WOW at 6:00 PM
- Youth Prayer Meeting at 5:45 PM
- Prayer Meeting at 6:00 PM
- Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 PM

FROM OUR STUDENT AND CONNECTIONS PASTOR...

The author of Hebrews says at the start of chapter 12, *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”* I have always loved these two verses for several reasons, and I would like to share two. First, it gives us a very clear set of directives. I’m a pretty simple man who appreciates clear instructions and goals:

- (1) *Set aside every weight and sin.*
- (2) *Run with endurance.*
- (3) *Look to Jesus.*

All three of these instructions are basically saying the same thing. Don’t get distracted. Focus on the goal (being Jesus). Anything that might draw your attention away from Jesus, cast it away. But this is easier said than done. We are far too easily distracted by the things of this world. How do we keep our sight set on Jesus? There are several things we can do to help our focus stay on Christ but the one I really want to talk about is the second reason why I love this passage so much. *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...”* Last weekend, the Highland youth participated in the Lauderdale Baptist Association’s annual Disciple Now. Throughout the weekend, your students fellowshiped, played games, participated in several small group Bible studies, and got to be a part of several worship services with almost 500 middle school, high school, and college small group leaders. During the last worship service on Saturday evening, I was standing in the front of the sanctuary. I looked around the sanctuary and saw dozens of teenagers worshipping with their hands raised. I saw dozens more breaking down at the altar as they laid aside the weight and sin of this world. What I saw was the closest thing we can see resembling the “great cloud of witnesses” this side of eternity. As we worshipped, I was reminded of two very important things. (1) We have some awesome worship ahead of us when we step into the presence of Christ, and (2) our work isn’t done yet. While God has us here, let’s all work together to see everyone we can one day get to experience this great cloud of witnesses.

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY ARE EXTENDED TO:

...Chris Harley in the death of his uncle.

...David and Josh Hopkins in the death of their great-uncle.

COMING
upNEXT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23—Property Committee Meeting & By-Law/Constitution Revision Committee Meeting following morning worship

Churchwide Personnel Committee Meeting at 5:00 PM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25—Highlanders Pot Luck Luncheon at noon

SATURDAY, MARCH 8—American Heritage Girls in the FLC at 6:00 PM

MONDAY, MARCH 10—Youth Mission Emphasis

TUESDAY, MARCH 11—Youth to Top Golf

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12—No Scheduled Activities

SUNDAY, MARCH 16—Youth Envelope Wall Fundraiser begins John 3:16 Day with Speaker, Tim Dowdy, NAMB in the Morning Worship Service

Celebration Service/Quarterly Business Session/Potluck Fellowship at 5:00 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 23—Kidz Ministry Breakfast Fundraiser at 8:00 AM

Tea Shower for Camille Kennard/Alex Vaughn at 1:30 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 25—Highlanders Pot Luck Luncheon at noon

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26—Church Bible Drill

SUNDAY, MARCH 30—Associational Bible Drill

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FEBRUARY 16, 2025			
Giving to budget to date	128,571.71	SUNDAY SCHOOL	214
Giving to budget (2/10-2/16)	17,472.18	WORSHIP	249