

August news



Where are you going?

I'm creeping up on half a century of being alive. While I'm not overwhelmed by it yet, I can sense it looming. Maybe that's what got me started on working through my bucket list.

A bucket list is a list of things to accomplish or experience before I "kick the bucket." Mine is tiny – just three things. 1. See The Lion King on Broadway in New York City, 2. Write a book, and 3. Come to a 4-way stop sign where all four of us are turning right at the same time.

Around Christmas time I realized there's no time like the present and reviewed my list. The trip to New York seemed the most logical choice, so I ordered the tickets then us up for the bus trip. It was wonderful.

That self-reflection is something we've all done at different times in our lives, and for lots of reasons. Sometimes big – "What is my purpose?"; sometimes less important – "Why did I come in this room and where was I headed?"

In Genesis 16, Hagar isn't asking these questions herself, but they are being asked of her. She is in the desert, and an angel of the Lord shows up. He says to her, **"Where have you come from and where are you going?"**

Undoubtedly the angel already knew, but to catch us up I can give you the CliffsNotes version. Abram was told by an angel that he would have a child, even though he was far too old. Ten years passed and Sarai, letting doubt creep in, figured it must be that Abram wouldn't be having a baby with her. She made a new plan, where Abram would have a baby through her servant Hagar. Once Hagar was pregnant, things got tense between the women, and Sarai mistreated Hagar. While we don't have details on what that entailed, the next scene is Hagar fleeing to the desert.

So that is where Hagar came **from**.

And where is she going? I could be wrong, but I don't think she knew, other than that she was running away. Anywhere but there.

The angel tells her to go back, but not before he blesses her with a Sour Patch Kids (you know, a little sour and a little sweet) kind of blessing.

"You will have a son," he said. "You shall name him Ishmael, for the Lord has heard of your misery." This is followed by basically saying no one is going to get along with him.

Then comes one of my favorite moments in Scripture – Hagar gave a name to God. "You are the God who sees me." Haven't we all felt the way Hagar must have felt at some point? Unseen and overlooked? But God, El Roi, always sees you and will make sure you know.

Take a minute and answer the questions Hagar was asked. Where have you come from, and where are you going? What has led you to this point in your life, and are you headed in the right direction, or should you change course? Ask God for clarity and direction and follow with obedience like Hagar. And always remember that He is the God who sees you.

"She gave this name to the Lord who spoke to her: 'You are the God who sees me,' for she said, 'I have now seen the One who sees me.'" Genesis 16:13

–Jennifer Chapman

West Virginia the South District **GATHERING** SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY | JULY 31

6PM • NYI CONVENTION
AFTER PARTY

SATURDAY | AUGUST 1

9AM • NDI CONVENTION
1PM • NMI CELEBRATION SERVICE
AND MARCH OF THE NATIONS

SUNDAY | AUGUST 2

6PM • ORDINATION SERVICE

MONDAY | AUGUST 3

9AM • DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

LOCATION:
TEAYS VALLEY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
3937 TEAYS VALLEY ROAD • HURRICANE, WV 25526



Highlawn
COMMUNITY ALLIANCE



HIGHLAWN COMMUNITY GIVEAWAY

AUGUST 8, 2026
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

HEALTHY KIDS MEALS, INC.
STILL WATERS COFFEE
MOUNTAIN CARE NETWORK
FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING
CLOTHES, TOYS, HOUSEHOLD
ITEMS & MORE!

321 30th Street, Huntington, WV

2nd Saturday Prayer

August 8th at 9 AM



Let's Exercise!

HEALTHY SUNDAYS

Join us for low impact exercises
AUGUST 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th
2:00 PM in the FLC

Praise & Testimony

August 9
5PM

HFCN Ladies' Ministry Brunch & Workshop
Saturday, September 26, 10 am -12 noon
Family Life Center
Information and Sign up at the Welcome Center!

Write the WORD
Workshop

Taught by Laura Macfarlan ~ Cross My Heart Ministry



Widow's Luncheon

Aug 15

Hello August!

OPEN GYM!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21
6-9 PM



HF Homebound Church Family

Marian Crowe
Marjorie Collins
Barbara Finley
Deborah Gibson
Marie Scheff
Melba Sprouse
Oscar Staggs
Tammy Stultz
Eleanor Dean
Ron Davidson (Katie)
Betty Muncy (Judi Cox)
Ron Dallis (Judi)

Let's remember to pray for each one, consider
sending a card or even visiting them.

If we have missed anyone, or if you need the
addresses, please see Joey Saxton, Mona
Epperly or contact the church office.



August Celebrations

1 Linda Daniels	10 Abby Hughes	23 Jace Myers
3 Sharlee Henry	13 Claire Lanz	25 Joseph Gillerlain
6 Logan Lockwood	15 Ron Davidson	Annie Pannell
7 Shawn Chapman	17 Emerson Thomas	Robert Simpkins
8 Cheryl Barr	18 Mona Epperly	26 King Scurry
Shad Henry	22 Cynthia Saxton	31 Richard Lewis
Boyd Rorabaugh		

Anniversaries

03 Colton & Lexi Rooper	19 Jim & Sherry Hamilton
16 Shawn & Jennifer Chapman	22 Kevin & Melissa Hamilton
18 Tyler & Taylor Baker	

Crisis Care Kits

SHAMPOO
12-18 oz
COLLECTION ITEM

Parent Pantry

diapers
wipes
formula

WIN-A-COUPLE

CLASS MEETING
AUGUST 22
5:00 PM



AUGUST 2026

ALL CHURCH, **HF KIDS**, **HF YOUTH**, **HF WOMEN'S MIN**, **THRIVE**
HIGHLAWN COMMUNITY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 NDI Convention THRIVE-Mom's of Little Ones NYI Convention NMI Celebration
2	3	4 Prayer Shawl THRIVE-Young Adults Group	5 Wed. Night Activities Women's Bible Study	6	7	8 GiveAway 2nd Saturday Prayer
9 NYI Mission Focus Healthy Sundays Exercise Praise & Testimony	10	11 THRIVE-Rick's Group THRIVE-Men's, Women's & Young Adults Groups	12 Wed. Night Activities Women's Bible Study	13 THRIVE-Married Group	14 Open Gym	15 Widow's Luncheon
16 Healthy Sundays Exercise NDI Meeting	17	18 Prayer Shawl THRIVE-Young Adults Group	19 Wed. Night Activities Women's Bible Study	20	21	22
23 Healthy Sundays Exercise Leadership Team Meeting	24	25 THRIVE-Rick's Group THRIVE-Men's, Women's & Young Adults Groups	26	27 THRIVE-Married Group	28	29
30 Healthy Sundays Exercise	31					

Connect. Thrive. Serve.

*"Our vision at HF is to be a church that is **CONNECTING** with Christ and people,
THRIVING in Christ and God's Word and **SERVING** Christ and others."*

CONNECTING:

Highlawn Ministries: On July 12, our HF Youth sponsored a Sunday evening Mission Focus and gave away almost 100 free hotdogs, connected with lots of people and prayed with a few as well. Thanks to all of our youth and leadership for serving our community!

HFCN Projects: In order to be good stewards of the things we have, the parsonage is in desperate need of new porches. Bids to do the work are out now and the board will be deciding when construction should begin.

In addition, the roof on the garage is also being replaced to be compliant with insurance regulations.

THRIVING:

Baptism: **Acts 22:16** tells says, **"What are you waiting for? Get up and be baptized. Have your sins washed away by calling on the name of the Lord."** We had the privilege of baptizing 6 people in July! Baptism for believers, is not something the Church recommends, it's something the Bible mandates. I'm grateful to those that were obedient to baptism, and I hope if it's something you still have yet to do, that you'll let us know.

Local Ministry: Ethan Lyons, one of our young men who has been called into ministry, and will be attending MVNU in the fall, was granted by full Leadership Team approval, a Local Minister's license. (part of his requirement for ongoing studies at MVNU." We are so proud of what God has been doing in Ethan's life and are excited to see the plans God has for his future.

SERVING:

Disaster Relief: Galatians 6:10 reminds us, "Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith." Thank you for your generosity in giving to the folks that we served in Boone County West Virginia and the 3 days work in Marian County Kentucky. A special thank you to the 6 people from Huntington 1st that served on the Kentucky trip and thank you Church, for your prayers and continued giving that allows us to keep being the hands and feet of the Gospel!

Pastor's Note: It's been my hope and purpose to be able to keep our church body informed about the exciting things happening here at Huntington First. If you ever find yourself in need, or just have a question, please don't hesitate to reach out to myself, a Staff Pastor or a Leadership Team member. Let's all go and be light in a dark world!

In Jesus,

Pastor Marc