



Highland Baptist Church
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www.highlandbaptist.org

The Highlander

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
AUGUST 2015

- August 1— Ladies Lunch
- August 2— Mission Testimonies
- August 7— Rock The Desert
- August 14— YEC
- August 16— Sunday School Promotion
- August 16— Baskets for Texas Tech
- August 23— Luncheon for college students
- August 23— Sunday Night Sing
- August 30— Luncheon for Sunday School Teachers
- August 30— No evening Service



Church Family,

I want to start by saying that my heart is full. It has been a great summer thus far and God continues to bless and teach me in so many ways. I am thankful for the grace of God and the gift he has given all of us in Jesus Christ.

Over the last months our church has been priviledged to see people come to know the Lord. We will participate in several baptisms in the month of August. We have seen people come and join our fellowship. Phase II of our Framing our Future campaign is nearing completion. Several camps have been attended (Youth Camp, Super Summer, Girls Camp, Camp Xtreme) and the Holy Spirit is teaching and challenging His people. Our Mission Team has finished the trip to Nicaragua and God moved in mighty ways there...not just in the lives of Nicaraguan people, but in the team's lives as well. We can be thankful for so much!

Colossians 3:16-17 says, *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Are you thankful? Are you happy to see Christ working in and through you? Whatever we do in word or deed, we must be thankful. We are to do all things in the name of Jesus Christ. He is our reason and purpose for living, and he is certainly why we do not forsake our assembling together. Remember to be thankful and to be aware that our Father in Heaven is working in and through you. We must let His word dwell in us as we continue to teach and encourage one another. I cannot wait to see what will happen as we begin a new church season.

I hope to see you this Sunday as we worship our risen Lord together. God has great plans for Highland, and I am grateful for that! God bless you church family as you bless him and one another.

ROUTE 66

a journey through the bible

I Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

PROMOTION SUNDAY



August 16th !!!

Sunday, August 16th, children and youth will promote in their Sunday school classes!

DEUTERONOMY
NUMBERS
LEVITICUS
EXODUS
GENESIS

Youth Evangelism Conference

AUG. 14-15
DOORS OPEN FRI. @ 6PM
\$15 EARLY REGISTRATION ... \$20 AT THE DOOR
VENUE: CALVARY BAPTIST LUBBOCK

Register at www.westtexasyec.com
Questions? info@westtexasyec.com

SPEAKER: RUNKS

WORSHIP: ISAAC WIMBERLEY

DRAMA: HURT & MANLEY

CONCERT: TEDASHII



University Welcome Week

 College students are invited to join us **Sunday, August 23rd** for Bible study beginning at 9:30 a.m. and worship at 10:45 a.m. Following the morning worship service we will have a “Welcome” lunch for college students in our Fellowship Center.

Teachers Appreciation Luncheon


POW!

CALLING ALL SUPER TEACHERS!

Join us for our Annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

AUGUST 30TH @ 12 NOON

Fellowship Center
Lunch provided for the whole family
Childcare will be provided

RSVP to Kathy West at 806-795-6453 or office@highlandbaptist.org
by August 24th

Ladies Luncheon

Highland Baptist Church is hosting the “Garden of Love” luncheon for girls and women on **Saturday, August 1st**. It will be held in the Fellowship Center from 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Bring your favorite salad and join us for fun and fellowship. Drinks and dessert will be provided. If you need a ride to the church, please call or email the church office.

Childcare will be provided.

RSVP for childcare or transportation:
Email: office@highlandbaptist.org
Phone: 806-795-6453,

Parents Day Out


Parents Day Out is now enrolling for the Fall—Spring session. Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m. This valuable ministry of Highland is now in its 34th year. 1000’s of preschoolers have heard the love of Jesus during PDO. Parents and grandparents have entrusted their children to us. Please pray for this ministry. Tell your friends about us. For more information call Katie Majors, PDO Director, at 795-1700.

Highland Family,

It has been a busy summer. Thanks to all who have participated with the kids this summer. Thanks to all who gave of their time or resources to make VBS and camps important in the lives of the children. Everything works together in the spiritual development of a child. And now it’s time to start planning the summer of 2016.

Kathy O’Guinn

The Rise of the Millennials

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly for the Christian Church.

78 Million. That’s how many Millennials are in the U.S. today. This upcoming generation accounts for about 25% of the total population and includes those born between 1980 and 2000. Right now the ages of this generation range from 35 to 15 years old. The rise of this generation has already made significant political and social changes in our country, both good and bad. As power and influence continue to shift from the Boomer and X generations to the Millennials, I can’t help but think how this shift will affect the Christian Church in the future. I have put together a few of my thoughts on the subject. I will start with the ugly and move to the good. I would rather end on a positive note.

The Ugly for the church

It should not be any surprise to the church that Millennials are the most secular generation in American history. In many ways they are socialistic, liberal, and skeptical of religious organizations and will continue to create challenges for churches to reach them effectively. This will especially be the case for established churches with congregations consisting of older generations. We will most likely continue to see the chasm between Biblical truth and generally accepted morality increase. This is ugly but this also creates a great opportunity to reach and disciple this generation. Jesus says in John 4 “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst.” The Millennials will continue to drink the water of empty secularism but it will not satisfy them. This is why the church must find new ways to reach this lost generation with the living water of Jesus Christ. Millennials desperately need the church and the church desperately needs Millennials. If some churches continue to neglect the need to reach and retain Millennials these churches will die. I warned you it was ugly.

The Bad for the church

Change. In the church this word is usually considered a curse word. Change is very difficult and many times extremely uncomfortable but change must happen for the church to reach the Millennials. I am not advocating that every established church moves to a seeker service, wears skinny jeans with black rimmed glasses, and starts every worship service with a Coldplay song but I am saying churches must make some changes or face the consequences. Churches must hold tight to the traditional Gospel message while exploring un-traditional methods for reaching the largest unchurched generation in American history. In 1 Corinthians 7:17 Paul says “Nevertheless, each person should live as a believer in whatever situation the Lord has assigned to them, just as God has called them.” The Lord has assigned the church with the task of reaching Millennials and we will miss the opportunity if we continue to use dated ministry methods. So churches please quit your 1996 Faith Evangelism Program and buy some skinny jeans. (Ok the Skinny jeans are a joke but please throw out the Faith Program. It’s not going to work with Millennials. Sorry)

The Good for the church

Ok enough with the doom and gloom. Though Millennials are for the most part secular, many of them are open to spiritual truth. For those Millennials that are religious, they will provide a strong, committed, and zealous volunteer base for the local church. Millennials are more than willing to lead ministries they deem valuable and can provide wonderful leadership despite their youthfulness. I truly believe this generation will produce some of the greatest preachers and church leaders we have ever seen. Millennials in the church also show a level of commitment not seen in recent generations. This commitment flows from the pressure of giving an account of their faith to their millennial peers. Their peers expect Christian Millennials to live out their faith and explain what they believe. Millennials are family oriented and have strong feelings against divorce. Millennials are more likely to travel the world and do mission work in foreign countries. Millennials have exceptional communication skills and if they love your church they will tell others about it. Millennials are smart, confident, and want to change the world around them. Just imagine these Millennials on fire for the Lord. They would be unstoppable. This is why the church must go after the souls of this generation, train them in the truth, and empower them to do ministry. Paul writes this to Timothy “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” (1 Tim 4:12) Will the church accept the challenge of helping this generation set an example in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity? Will the church go after this generation? I pray they do.

Obviously I wrote this with the universal church in mind not just Highland. I do think Highland is an established church exploring new ways to reach this secular generation. If you want to read more about my thoughts on ministry and church please check out my blog or follow me on twitter.

Blessings,
John Gillespie