

# leadership

## ELDERS

Pastor Mike Ruel  
Paul Fehrenbacher [Secretary]

Rob Downs [Chairman]  
John Lisa [Treasurer]

## DEACONS AND STAFF

**Building and Grounds**  
**Fellowship**  
**Benevolence**  
**Technology**  
**Finance**  
**Kingdom Kids**

Len Baxter  
Kerry Westpy  
Jeff Lukawski  
Ray Westpy  
TJ Walsh [Interim]  
Alyssa Myhren  
Kim Bennett  
Pastor Josh Barlow  
Steve and Ally Gunther  
Pastor Jesse Morgan  
Ron Vreeland  
Carinne Downs

**Jr & Sr High Youth**

**Worship**

**Financial Admin**

## CARE GROUPS

### Vernon Center/HBC

Pastor Mike Ruel  
Mondays • 7pm  
Downstairs Room #1

### Lafayette

Andy & Amy Bennett  
2nd & 4th Sundays • 4pm  
973-886-4679

### Vernon/565

Len & Doreen Baxter  
June 14th • 7pm  
201-230-7372

### Branchville/Newton

Ray & Kerry Westpy  
1st and 3rd Fridays  
862-266-8699

### Highland Lakes

Family Focused Dinner  
Marc & Stacey Bray  
2nd Sunday • 3pm  
973-477-9340



307 NJ-94, Vernon, NJ 07462  
(973) 764-7506  
Highlandsbiblechurch.org  
Info@highlandsbiblechurch.org

**For Prayer Needs - Send Email To:**  
PrayerChain@HighlandsBibleChurch.org

# Psalm

WORSHIP IN

REAL LIFE

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

**JULY 21, 2019**

# welcome

## our purpose

We are delighted that you joined us today! Our purpose is to glorify God by making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ. Our ministry vision is to love God with all that we are, and love others as much as we love ourselves.

As you worship with us today, you'll notice how often we reference the gospel of Jesus Christ. We don't have it all figured out, but we know that God saves sinners through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Please join us as we exalt God by singing about his greatness and as we seek to know more about him from the Bible.

## the gospel

You will hear us talk about the gospel a lot. Actually it is the center of everything we do here at Highlands.

1. **God** - the only all-knowing, all-powerful King and Creator of all things. He created us to enjoy and glorify him forever. [Psalm 19:1-2; Romans 1:18-32]
2. **Sin** - Yet, we rejected God, and established ourselves as gods of our lives, separating ourselves from Him, and becoming objects of His wrath. In so doing we also unleashed sin, sickness, death and evil. [Ephesians 2:1-3; Romans 5:12-14]
3. **Christ** - In God's unparalleled mercy and grace, He already had a plan to reconcile us to Himself. The entire Old Testament points to the coming of the Messiah - revealed in the New Testament as Jesus Christ. [John 1; Ephesians 2:4-7; Romans 3:21-26]
4. **Response** - None of this is effective for us unless we respond in two ways: repent/turn from our self control and sin [Mark 1:15], and believe in the gospel [John 3:16-18]. We are then given new life in Christ, forgiven, justified, adopted into God's family, and we persevere in the faith. [1 John 1:9; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Matthew 24:13; Ephesians 4:1]

## kingdom kids

We encourage you to worship as a family, however we provide nursery care [infants - 2.5 yrs] if desired. Kids will be dismissed downstairs before the sermon. Please see one of our security team at the check-in desk by the coffee table for more info.

Explorers	Newborn - 2.5 yrs
Discoverers	2.5 yrs - 3 yrs
Adventurers	Pre-K [4yrs] and Kindergarten
Navigators	Grades 1-5

We are always looking for help in Kingdom Kids. See Alyssa or Kim today to find out how you can help!

## calendar

- **SummerFest - FINAL NIGHT TONIGHT! 6pm! BE HERE!**
- **Biblical Nutrition Class - starts today after service!**
- Men's Bible Study - Wednesdays 6:30am at Sussex Sit n Chat Diner
- Mens Breakfast, Saturday, July 27th, 8am at John Leuzarder's
- Sussex County Church Tent at Fair - See Pastor Mike/Sign up at Welcome Table
- Baptism Service - Sunday, August 25th - attend class on Sunday, July 28th after service.
- Green Pond 50th Anniversary Weekend - Aug 30-Sept 1 - See Welcome Table
- Fall Kick-Off Picnic - Sunday, September 8th, after service
- Fall ABF Series - Biblical Finances starting Sunday, September 16th

## finances

General Offering - May '19	\$22,998.93
Designated Gifts - May '19	\$-
YTD General Offering thru May '19	\$98,629.48
YTD Budget	\$113,089.34

# worship guide

**July 21, 2019**

**WELCOME!** Our passage today is from Psalm 17. As you prepare your heart in prayer, please consider:

## COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” (James 4:3–6 ESV)

## PRAY/CONSIDER

- Consider your prayer life - what does it typically look like?
- Are we confident God hears us when we pray? Why/why not?
- How does the state of our hearts affect our prayers?
- Consider his perfect faithfulness - how can the truths of this Psalm encourage our hearts when we doubt?
- How do you think God sees you? What should inform that perspective? Our feelings, situations, or Scripture?
- As Christians, what are some of the differences between us and those who hope in the world? How can we tell when we start to hope more in the world than in God?
- Consider the gospel - God's faithfulness and the future hope - How can that practically help us in our daily faith?

## SING

Grace Unmeasured | How Firm a Foundation |  
O Praise the Name | Death Was Arrested | Behold Our God

---

# sermon notes

---

July 21, 2019

## PSALM 17

*Divine Alignment*

### 1. Send Help! [17:1-5; Psalm 119:11; James 4:3]

Those who call on God for help, need to follow God in their hearts.

### 2. Apples and Little Men [17:6-9]

God is perfectly faithful and his children are precious to Him.

### 3. As For Me... [17:10-15]

**Big Idea: In prayer, we align ourselves with who God is, and the hope of what's to come.**