

# leadership

## ELDERS

Pastor Mike Ruel  
Bob Fieldhouse [Secretary]

John Lisa [Chairman]  
Len Baxter [Treasurer]

## DEACONS AND STAFF

**Building and Grounds**  
**Fellowship**  
**Benevolence**  
**Technology**  
**Finance**  
**Kingdom Kids**  
**Worship**  
**Operations Manager**

David Baxter  
Kerry Westpy  
Piero DiClemente  
Ray Westpy  
Chris Deming  
Alyssa Myhren  
Ron Vreeland  
Tina Nause

## CARE GROUPS - ZOOM Video/In-Person

### CONTACT LEADERS FOR NEW INFO

#### Vernon

Pastor Mike  
Mondays • 7pm - at HBC  
[info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org](mailto:info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org)

#### Vernon/565

Len & Doreen Baxter  
First Friday monthly  
201-230-7372

#### Branchville/Newton

Ray & Kerry Westpy  
3rd Friday Monthly  
862-266-8699

#### TwentySomethings

Chris & Alyssa Deming  
201-819-0327



307 NJ-94, Vernon, NJ 07462  
(973) 764-7506  
[Highlandsbiblechurch.org](http://Highlandsbiblechurch.org)  
[Info@highlandsbiblechurch.org](mailto:Info@highlandsbiblechurch.org)

**For Prayer Needs - Send Email To:**  
[PrayerChain@HighlandsBibleChurch.org](mailto:PrayerChain@HighlandsBibleChurch.org)

August 22, 2021

# MATTHEW

*Truly I Say To You*



# 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 love kids at Highlands!

Kids will be dismissed to downstairs before the sermon. Please see one of our security team at the check-in desk for more info.

Current Classes: Explorers (0-2)  
Discoverers (2-3) and Adventurers (4-Grade 2)

## coming up

- **See the Events Page on our website or app for more info!**
- Monday Night Care Group - tomorrow night, 7pm - upstairs in Loffice
- Wednesdays: Men's Bible Study - 7am Wednesdays - Sussex Diner.
- **Next Member Meeting - TONIGHT - Sunday, August 22nd, 6pm**
- Baptism Service - Sunday, August 29th
- Prayer Meeting - Sunday, September 5th, 6pm
- Next Steps Class - Sunday, September 12th, 6pm
- Fall Picnic BYO lunch - Sunday, September 19th after service
- My Brother's Place Golf Outing - Friday, October 1st
- Today's Choice Walk for Life - Saturday, October 9th
- Elder Meetings - 2nd Tuesday Monthly - prayers appreciated!

## finances

General Offering - July 2021	\$ 23,051.72
Designated Gifts - July 2021	\$ 435.20
YTD General Offering thru July 2021	\$ 157,890.61
2021 Budget	\$ 314,511.00

*Thank you so much for your generous gifts to the ministry of the church at Highlands, our giving box is in the back at the welcome table. Additionally, you can give anytime online at [www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org/Resources/Give](http://www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org/Resources/Give)*

*Or you can mail a check to Highlands Bible Church, 307 Route 94, Vernon, NJ 07462.*

*Questions? [info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org](mailto:info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org) or see Chris Deming.*

# worship guide

**August 22, 2021**

Welcome to worship! Our sermon passage today is from Matthew 10:34-42. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

## COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?”

(Luke 9:23-25 CSB)

## CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- What conflict have you experienced as a result of your faith in Jesus?
- Where do you feel it most these days? The world, others, or in your own heart battling with sin?
- Where do you see Luke 9:23 in action in your life? Where are you denying yourself and taking up your cross?
- What rewards [primarily spiritually speaking] have you experienced from following Jesus faithfully?
- Review the fruits of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 and the spiritual blessings in Christ in Ephesians 1:3-14 - which are sweetest to you and why?
- NEXT WEEK’S PASSAGE: Matthew 11:1-19.

## SING

Come Praise and Glorify | O Fount of Love |  
The Wonderful Cross | In Christ Alone | Yet Not I But Christ In Me

# sermon notes

**August 22, 2021**

## MATTHEW 10:34-42

*Swords and Rewards*

1. Family Fights? [10:34-37; Micah 7:6; Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 22:37; Galatians 5:17]

**Loving Jesus above all will bring conflict with some.**

2. True Life [10:38-39; Luke 9:23-25; Romans 6:11]

**Spiritual life is found in death.**

3. True Rewards [10:40-42]

**There is great reward in receiving the message of Jesus.**

**Big Idea: A disciples reward can only come through sacrifice.**