

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

Highlands

Ken Menzel
Mondays • 7pm

Pastor Mike
2nd and 4th Sundays • 4pm
info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org

Vernon/565

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

Branchville/Newton

Paul Fehrenbacher
Twice monthly - call for dates
973-948-5909



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

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

PROPHECIES OF THE SAVIOR

Advent in Isaiah

DECEMBER 26, 2021

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. 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 - 7pm in sanctuary
- Wednesdays: Men's Bible Study - 7am Wednesdays - Sussex Diner
- Prayer Meeting - Next Sunday, January 2nd, 6pm
- Sunday Afternoon Care Group - January 9th, 4pm
- Ladies Winter Tea - Saturday, January 22nd. Register online today!
- Save the Date: Annual Member Meeting - Sunday, January 23rd
- Men's Breakfast - Saturday, February 12th, 8am
- Next Steps Class - Sunday, February 20th, 5pm
- Elder Meetings - 2nd Tuesday Monthly - prayers appreciated!

finances



General Offering - Nov 2021	\$ 23,380.99
Nehemiah Fund	\$ 349,106.79
Designated Gifts - Nov 2021	\$ 527.25
YTD General Offering thru Nov 2021	\$ 252,165.23
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

Have you considered giving to the Nehemiah Fund for the next chapter of Highlands? Please select the "Nehemiah Fund" option at online giving or write "Nehemiah Fund" in the check memo line. Questions? info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org or see Chris Deming.

worship guide

December 26, 2021

Welcome to worship! Our sermon passage today is from Isaiah 40:25-31. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”

(Colossians 1:15-20 ESV)

CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- How do you typically seek to understand God? His Word? His creation?
- How can we protect ourselves from cultural/religious assumptions that influence us? Where have you misunderstood God?
- Where do you need to actively trust God in 2022?
- Where have you seen God sustain you or others?
- NEXT WEEK’S PASSAGE: Matthew 15:1-9

SING

Everlasting God | *Away in a Manger/Go Tell it on the Mountain; O Come Let us Adore Him [Kingdom Kids]* |
Wonderful Merciful Savior | O Praise the Name. [Anastasis]

sermon notes

December 26, 2021

ISAIAH 40:25-31

Advent: The Savior Who Sustains

1. Doubting the Savior [40:25-27; Colossians 1:15-20]

God can be trusted.

2. Trusting the Savior [40:28-31; 1 Peter 4:12]

Trusting God exchanges our weakness for his strength.

Big Idea: We actively trust in the Savior who sustains us.