

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

January 9, 2022

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 - 7pm in sanctuary
- Ladies Bible Study - Tuesdays at 9am in sanctuary - see Pam Fehrenbacher for more info.
- Wednesdays: Men's Bible Study - 7am Wednesdays - Sussex Diner
- **Sunday Afternoon Care Group - TODAY, 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

finances



General Offering - Dec 2021	\$ 33,041.62
Nehemiah Fund	\$ 384,481.43
Designated Gifts - Dec 2021	\$ 290.70
YTD General Offering thru Dec 2021	\$ 285,206.85
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

January 9, 2022

Welcome to worship! Our sermon passage today is from Matthew 15:21-39. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in faithful love.”

(Psalm 103:8 CSB)

CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- What is surprising about 15:21-28 to you? What is encouraging?
- Consider your own journey to faith, did any misunderstandings of God's compassion prevent you from coming to him initially?
- Where do you need to be persistent in prayer like the mother who kept begging Jesus to help?
- In what area[s] of your life do you need Jesus to work that you feel isn't likely for him to do so?
- What can you do to increase your perspective on the global mission of the gospel? How can you pray or support the mission of the gospel for all peoples?
- NEXT WEEK'S PASSAGE: Matthew 16:1-12.

SING

Before the Throne of God Above | How Firm a Foundation |
His Mercy is More | Be Thou My Vision |
Jesus Thank You

sermon notes

January 9, 2022

MATTHEW 15:21-39

Compassion on the Wrong Side of Town

1. A Desperate Mom [15:21-28]

Jesus responds to humble faith.

2. The Decapolis Finds Jesus [15:28-31; Mark 7:31]

Jesus works where it doesn't seem likely.

3. Yet Another Lunch Miracle [15:32-39]

Big Idea: Jesus has compassion on all who come to him by faith.