

LEADERSHIP

LOVING GOD AND LOVING PEOPLE

ELDERS

Mike Ruel, **PASTOR**
Bob Fieldhouse, **SECRETARY**

Len Baxter, **CHAIRMAN**
Paul Fehrenbacher, **TREASURER**
Piero DiClemente

DEACONS AND STAFF

Kerry Westpy, **FELLOWSHIP**
Tom Worts, **BENEVOLENCE**
Laurie Rivera, **CARING**
Tina Nause, **OPERATIONS**
MANAGER

Alyssa Myhren, **KINGDOM KIDS**
Ron Vreeland, **WORSHIP**
Chris Deming, **FINANCE**
David Baxter, **BUILDING & GROUNDS**
Ray Westpy, **TECHNOLOGY**

CARE GROUPS

WHERE: Highlands Bible Church
WHEN: Mondays at 7PM
HOSTED BY: Ken Menzel

WHERE: Highlands Bible Church
WHEN: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 4pm
HOSTED BY: Pastor Mike Ruel

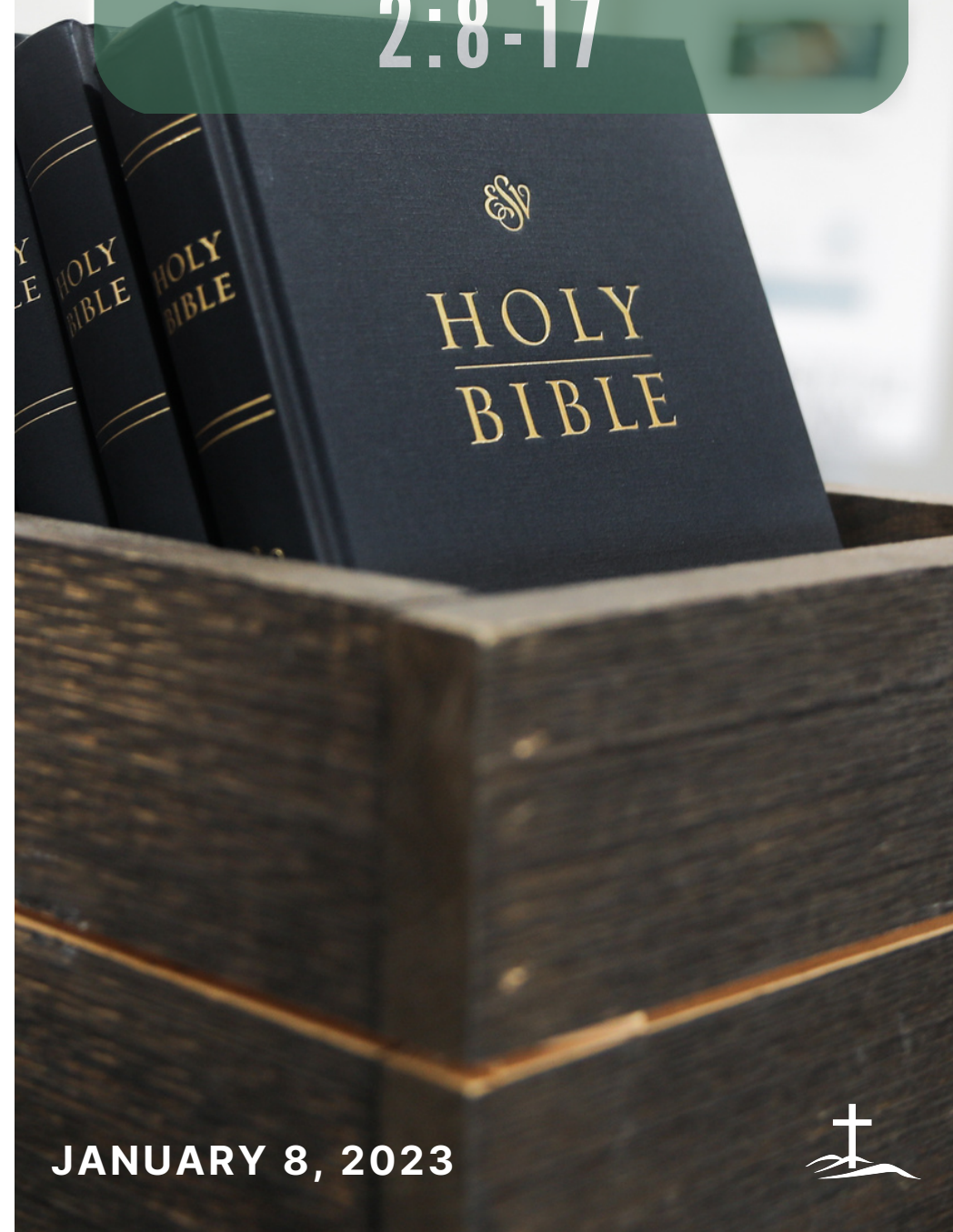
WHERE: Vernon/565
WHEN: First Friday, Monthly
HOSTED BY: The Baxters
CALL: 201-230-7372

WHERE: Branchville/Newton
WHEN: Twice Monthly
HOSTED BY: Paul Fehrenbacher
CALL: 973-948-5909

WHERE: Highlands Bible Church
WHEN: Varies
HOSTED BY: Brad & Taylor Wilson
CALL: 973-600-0826 [Brad]
Family Friendly Group!

SONG OF SOLOMON

2:8-17



For Prayer Needs, Please Email Us at
PrayerChain@HighlandsBibleChurch.org
General e-mail: info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org
www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org | 973-764-7506
307 NJ-94, Vernon Township, NJ 07462



JANUARY 8, 2023



OUR PURPOSE

MAKING AND MATURING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

We are delighted that you joined us today! 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

THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING WE DO AT HIGHLANDS

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]

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]

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]

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-Kindergarten) and Navigators (1st-3rd grade).

HIGHLANDS HAPPENINGS

EVENTS, CARE GROUPS, AND MORE

CHRISTIAN ED. ASST. FUND: Interest meeting today after service!

MONDAY CARE GROUP: 7pm in the Sanctuary.

TUESDAY LADIES BIBLE STUDY: 9am Tuesdays - Childcare available

WEDNESDAY MENS BIBLE STUDY: 7am @ Sussex Sit n Chat

GREETER TEAM MEETING: Sunday, January 15th after service.

MIDWEEK STUDY: Resumes Wednesday, January 18th @ 6:30pm

JANUARY MEMBER MEETING & DINNER: Sunday, January 22nd 5pm

LADIES WINTER GATHERING: Saturday, January 28th. Register online!

NEXT STEPS CLASS: Sunday, February 19th @ 5pm

ELDER MEETINGS: 2nd Tuesday Monthly - Prayers Appreciated!

FINANCES

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| GENERAL OFFERING , Dec 2022 | \$48,525.47 |
| NEHEMIAH FUND , To Date | \$372,046.17 |
| BENEVOLENCE , To Date | \$16,514.22 |
| CEAF , To Date | \$5,895.50 |
| YTD GENERAL OFFERING | \$328,432.91 |
| 2022 BUDGET | \$335,511.00 |

Our giving box is in the back at the welcome table. You can also give anytime online at www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org
Have you considered making a year end gift to our new Christian Education Assistance (CEAF) fund?
Questions? Email us at info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org!

WORSHIP GUIDE

January 8, 2023

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Pastor Josh Barlow from the Green Pond Bible Chapel is our guest preacher. Josh will be preaching from Song of Solomon 2:8-17. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:



COMPLIMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.” Ephesians 4:31-33 ESV

Old Testament reading for today: Psalm 119:17-32 (Page 480)



CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- What are some marital obstacles you and your spouse have? What are some marital blessings you and your spouse enjoy?
- If you are unmarried and desire marriage, how does this passage prepare you for the ups and downs of marriage?
- Husbands, what practical steps can you take to be more loving and active in your marriage (esp. in relational restoration)?
- Consider how Christ selflessly pursued you when were far off from Him, how does that drive you to love your spouse better and how can you emulate Christ's love to your spouse?



SING

How Firm a Foundation | Prepared a Place for Me |
Wonderful, Merciful Savior | O Lord My Rock and My Redeemer |
His Mercy is More

SERMON NOTES

Song of Solomon 2:8-17 | When Love is Far Off

1. Love Knows No Bounds [2:8-9]

2. Spring Has Sprung [2:10-14]

3. Guarding Satisfaction [2:15-18]

Big Idea: No matter the cost, pursue your spouse.