

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
7:00 AM - 5:30 PM Monday - Friday
PRESCHOOL AGES 3-5
ANN SMITH, Director 455-8642

Celebrating
56
YEARS

THE CONNECTION (USPS579-240)
Is published monthly by Highland Baptist Church,
808 W. Hickory St. Tullahoma, TN 37388
Periodical Postage Paid at Tullahoma, TN
Postmaster: Send address changes to The Connection, P.O. Box 1195. Tullahoma, TN. 37388

HighlandBaptistChurch.com

THE CONNECTION NOVEMBER 2026

Highland Baptist
Connect, Grow, Serve, Go

Last month, I shared with you that Jesus lived a life of intimate prayer. Now, I want you to see that intimate prayer flows from intentional purpose. Jesus didn't come to earth without a plan. His life was devoted to fulfilling the will of His Father and accomplishing the work of redemption. In John 17:2–3, we see two important aspects of His divine purpose: the plan of His Father and the pardon of His followers.

Jesus was given authority by the Father to come to earth and accomplish the work of salvation for those entrusted to Him. Redemption wasn't an afterthought or God's last-minute response to humanity's fall. Before creation, God had already determined to send His Son as our Savior. Ephesians 1:4 reminds us that God *"chose us in him before the foundation of the world,"* and 1 Peter 1:20 tells us that Christ *"was foreknown before the foundation of the world."* These verses remind us that the plan of redemption was never unfolding by chance. Every aspect of Jesus' life was part of God's divine plan. He said what the Father directed Him to say, did what the Father directed Him to do, and went where the Father sent Him. His life was marked by complete obedience and submission to the Father's will. What a contrast that is to our own lives! Too often, we pursue our own desires, and pleasures, and ambitions rather than seeking to fulfill God's purposes. Sometimes, we treat Christ as a spiritual adviser whose counsel we can accept or ignore instead of recognizing Him as our sovereign Lord and Master. Jesus' intentional purpose challenges us to examine our own hearts. Are we living to please ourselves, or are we seeking to please God? Are our decisions guided by His Word and His will, or are we simply following our own desires? Jesus reminds us that our lives should be centered on God's purposes rather than our own.

Jesus came not only to fulfill the Father's plan but also to save sinners and provide eternal life to all who believe in Him. 1 Timothy 1:15 says, *"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,"* while Luke 19:10 tells us, *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."* That was the very reason Jesus came. In John 17:3, He explains that eternal life is knowing the only true God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent. We cannot truly know the Father apart from knowing the Son, who came to reveal Him to us. Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus continually demonstrated God's mercy, grace, and compassion. It was hard for the religious leaders to understand a God who would open the eyes of a man

Continued on the next page

born blind, yet Jesus healed him. They struggled to understand how God could forgive a woman caught in adultery, yet Jesus extended mercy to her. They couldn't comprehend a God who would forgive sinners, cleanse a leper, or raise a man from the dead after four days in the tomb. Yet Jesus demonstrated the heart of God through every one of these acts. He showed us that no one is beyond the reach of His mercy and that His grace extends even to everyone. His intentional purpose reminds us that our lives ought to reflect the same commitment to God's will and the same compassion toward those who need His grace.

Our lives ought to be marked by intimate prayer and intentional purpose. When we seek God's guidance and answers to our prayers, we need to approach Him with hearts fully surrendered to His will and committed to obeying Him unconditionally. Jesus devoted His entire earthly ministry to fulfilling the Father's plan and accomplishing the work of redemption. We ought to live with that same sense of purpose by seeking to honor God in our words and actions. Rather than letting our own desires direct our lives, may we faithfully follow Christ and make His purposes our own.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jim



Deacon of the Week

October 31-Nov. 6	Steve Stone
November 7-13	Bobby Ferrell
November 14-20	Mike Stringfield
November 21-27	Mark Smith
November 28-Dec. 4	Roger Williams

Greeters – November 2026

November 1 – Jimmy/ Kristy

November 8 – Johnny/ Gayle/ Brian

November 15 – David/ Diane

November 22 – Samanthia/ Linda/ Kathy

November 29 – Keith/ Ramona

HBC Deacon Family Assignments 2026-2027

Group	Deacon
AMA-BRO	Roger Williams
CAG-DOL	Stan Smith
DOU-GAD	Steve Conner
GER-HOL	Jimmy Gaddis
HOO-LIT	Bradley Rogers
MAY-NOR	Steve Stone
OLS-RUY	Rick Miller
SAN-THA	Bobby Ferrell
VIL-YOS	Mike Stringfield
DEACONS	Mark Smith





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STAFF

JIM NORMAN	SENIOR PASTOR
MATT KOEHLER	MINISTER OF YOUTH & EDUCATION
JIMMY GADDIS	FACILITIES MANAGER
KATHY HASTY	NURSERY DIRECTOR
ANN SMITH	DIRECTOR - CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
MIKE STRINGFIELD	VOLUNTEER MUSIC DIRECTOR

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."
Psalm 107:1

November Nursery Volunteers

Nursery Director – Kathy Hasty – If you are not able to serve on your assigned date then please contact Kathy Hasty.

Sunday November 1:
Bible Study: Kelly Farris
Morning Worship: Kim Dodson, Kelly Farris, Kathy Hasty
Evening Worship: Samanthia Norman, Kathy Hasty

Wednesday November 4:
Kim Dodson and Rick Miller

Sunday November 8:
Bible Study: Liz Bond
Morning Worship: Kim Dodson, Leah Prince, Linda Bolinger
Evening Worship: Terri Stone, Kathy Hasty

Wednesday November 11:
Kim Doson and Carrie Newton

Sunday November 15:
Bible Study: David Inocencio
Morning Worship: Kim Dodson, David Inocencio, Rick Miller
Evening Worship: Linda Bolinger, Kathy Hasty

Wednesday November 18:
Kim Dodson and Kathy Hasty

Sunday November 22:
Bible Study: Liz Bond and Lauren Fults
Morning Worship: Kim Dodson, Lauren Fults, Steve Stone
Evening Worship: Terri Stone, Kathy Hasty

Wednesday November 25:
No AWANA – Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday November 29:
Bible Study: David Inocencio
Morning Worship: Kim Dodson, Lauren Fults, Kathy Hasty
Evening Worship: Linda Bolinger, Kathy Hasty

Church,
This month, students will participate in the Day of Global Youth Evangelism. November 14th, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., we will have a full day of evangelism training, outreach, and celebrating God's faithfulness. Students and Adult leaders covet your prayers. Pray we will have courage, boldness, compassion, patience, kindness, quick to listen, slow to speak, slow get angry, and that we walk by faith. Pray that we would not allow fear, frustration, rejection, or ourselves to get in the way of what God can do through us if we are in unity.



"Last year in 2025, there were 87 countries, 6,715 groups, and 298,156 potential teens mobilized worldwide to share the Gospel. These stats capture a snapshot of the 2025 Day of Global Youth Evangelism, when youth ministries worldwide gathered for evangelism training and immediately put it into action by heading into their communities to spread the Good News of Jesus." – Dare 2 Share Ministries



This event is a picture of the CHURCH from all over the world coming together to share the Gospel. In October, we covered a month-long series on the Gospel. Learned different ways of having Gospel conversations and praying for God to use our group to make an impact in at least one person's life for eternity.
Matt Koehler

Minister of Youth & Education

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends	2	3 Patricia Cagle	4 Sheri Mason	5	6 Food Share Ministry Center 9:00-11:30AM	7 Flags Setup for Veteran's Day
8 Veteran's Day Emphasis Deacons Meeting 4:00 PM	9 Terri Stone	10 PrimeTimers 12PM	11 Veteran's Day	12	13 Food Share Ministry Center 9:00-11:30AM	14 Flags Takedown Kathy Hasty
15 Guardians Concert 6PM	16 Sharon Marlow Marianna Edinger	17	18	19	20 Food Share Ministry Center 9:00-11:30AM Ann Smith	21
22 Betsy Ferrell	23 Traci Henderson	24 Kay Williams	25 Food Share Ministry Center 9:00-11:30AM No Wednesday Evening Services	26 Church Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 5th Sunday Sing Brenda Gilbert	30	27				

TBMB Summit - Sevierville, TN

OCC Shoebox Collection Week - November 16-23

OCC Shoebox Collection

Childrens Church – November 2026

11/1/26 – Matt Koehler, Riley Robison
11/8/26 – Joanna Koehler, Abigail Peppers
11/15/26 – Jonathan Sipe, Callie Murray
11/22/26 – Coral Leonard, Julie Rogers
11/29/26 – Mark Raymond, Ann Smith

Sound Volunteers – November 2026

10/28 & 11/1 – Ben Murray
11/4 & 11/8 – Ben Murray
11/11 & 11/15 – Ben Howell
11/18 & 11/22 – Janice Davis
11/25 & 11/29 – Ben Murray

NOVEMBER

Highland's Highlights

Counters for November
Linda Hawkersmith, Kimber Henry







