

*Highlands
Community of Christ*

*Wendy Gunn, Pastor of Record
Dawn Pagat, Pastor of
Children/Youth/Young Adult
Rob de Zwart, Pastor of
Congregational Life*

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7615 N. Platte Purchase Dr.
Kansas City, Missouri 64118
Phone: 816-468-7878*

Highlands Highlights



*We will be a Light in our Community by sharing the love
of Jesus the Christ!*

September 27, 2020

EXODUS 17:1-7

Thirst for the Lord

Additional Scripture

Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32; Doctrine and Covenants 164:9a

Psalm 42:1-2 nlt

*As the deer longs for streams of water,
so I long for you, O God.
I thirst for God, the living God.*

**IMPORTANT
PLEASE READ**

TO: Highlands Congregation

FROM: Bryan Parrott, Highlands Health Officer

With the release of restrictions that will allow us to return to church life, we must do so with a continued interest in the safety and security of our members and visitors entering our facility to worship. With that in mind, changes in behavior must be implemented until such a time as a vaccine will allow us to return to the life we once knew. The Safety Team has developed the following procedures to guide us through the next phase of our return to worship. These procedures are being implemented at the direction of the Mission Center leadership in conjunction with the World Church.

Effective October 11, 2020, the Highlands will open our doors for worship services. On-site Sunday School classes, breakfast, weekday classes, meetings or events will be suspended until further notice. Changes to this will be sent via email.

Services will continue to also be broadcast on Zoom for those who are uncomfortable coming to church. The most vulnerable should consider these alternatives and not feel pressured to be at church. Continue to monitor emails for links to each service.

Future instructions will be provided based on the information available at the time. The congregation should be prepared to move forward or backwards depending on the ever changing environment. Exceptions will be directed to the pastor who will then discuss with the Highlands' Health Officer for guidance. A formal exception request will then be presented to the Mission Center for approval.

Please read the following and be prepared to follow the direction of the Safety Team, Ushers & Greeters as we gather.

- All perimeter doors will remain locked so entry can only be made through the front doors. A traffic flow will be established so we can avoid direct contact with one another.

- Entry into the sanctuary will be made through the back with seating in every other row. Families should sit together with their children and children should not be allowed to roam the building.
 - Certain areas of the church will be cleaned and off limits so we do not have to continue to pay to clean them.

- When exiting the sanctuary, the door at the back side (SE corner) will be used to exit.

- When entering the facility, attendance will be taken in an effort to create a contact list in case a COVID case is detected among one of our own. Contact tracing is a critical aspect of fighting the spread of the virus. It may or may not be required by some jurisdictions as we move forward; however, The Highlands will continue this practice in an effort to protect our own and attendance is taken every Sunday anyway. Any visitors NOT on our regular roles will be required to provide a name, email address and physical address for contract tracing. Whoever is assigned to take attendance will contact a member of the Safety Team for advice if issues arise.

- Everyone will be required to wear a face mask when entering the facility. If you don't have a mask, it will be provided to you. If you receive a mask from the congregation, please wash it and reuse the mask when you return to worship with us next time. Speakers may be allowed to remove their mask while speaking but should don them as soon as they are finished. A protector for microphones will be provided or disinfectant wipes provided to clean the microphone after each use. (Please do not use the wind screens normally on the microphones.)

- Neither performance nor congregational singing will be allowed during worships. The only music will be either instrumental or pre-recorded.

- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building. We encourage you to touch as little as possible and use the sanitizer. Sanitizer will be available as you exit the building so you can enter your vehicle with clean hands.

- Only the bathrooms closest to the sanctuary should be utilized. One person at a time should use the bathroom at any time except for family members. Please do not enter any other rooms, including the kitchen, gymnasium, classrooms, and other bathrooms. Rooms and hallways that are off limits will be posted. Please pay attention to signage which will be spread throughout the building for instruction.

- Worship preparation (just before start of service) should be done outside or spread out in the classroom hall-

way on the south side so social distancing can be maintained. Set chairs on the stage with proper spacing and or sit with proper spacing on the front row of pews which will be reserved for service participants.

All services will be projected with no bulletins printed. All hymns will be projected as hymnals will be removed until we progress to another phase

Prayer and Praise requests will NOT be placed on prayer towers during this phase. Prayer and Praise requests should be directed to Missy Allen electronically for distribution. Please provide them the night before so they can be presented for prayer during the Sunday service.

The Safety Team will be present to assist you and guide you through the process. Our hope is that we can come together to worship and gradually return to normal life of love and praise to our Heavenly Father as one family.

Procedures for Presiders & Planners

OFFERTORY

Offertory baskets will be placed at the back of the sanctuary near the exit at the SE door. Offertory remarks should be made with congregants instructed to deliver their contributions to the baskets on their way out. Deacons will stand by the baskets during collection. The baskets will be stacked and then picked up by Gary Libeer, Terry Allen, or Wendy Gunn. They will be the only ones to handle the baskets with protective measures in place. You are encouraged to use the electronic contribution app for your phone. If you need help learning how to utilize this method of giving please feel free to contact Gary Libeer, Bryan Parrott, Allen Keeler, or anyone else who uses the program.

COMMUNION

Communion will be prepared by TWO deacons or other designee. Gloves and masks will be used and the communion covered with cellophane in the kitchen. The cellophane will remain in place until emblem preparation during the service. A mask and gloves will be used to prepare the emblems and proper hand washing measures will be used.

Emblem preparation during the service will be done with rubber gloves by one person. Communion Servers will place their gloves on during emblem preparation and can dispose of them when communion is complete. A trashcan will be available at the back of the sanctuary for sanitary disposal of gloves.

Congregants will be required to come forward at the direction of the presider to the front of the sanctuary to receive their portion of the bread and wine. Bread and Wine should be served using the combined prayer so movement is limited to one trip.

BREAD-Servers will wear gloves during the service of bread. The server will hand the piece of bread to each member.

WINE-Servers will hand the wine cup to each member or may place it on the table to be picked up.

Cups will NOT be placed back in the trays after being touched, therefore make sure to make this announcement as part of the preparation remarks. The member will then drop the cup in the zip lock bag. The zip lock bag will be sealed and placed in the trash receptacle at the back of the sanctuary. The Health Officer can clarify this procedure for you if you have any questions.

POST SERVICE CLEANING

Post service cleaning will occur throughout the week prior to the next Sunday. The Health Officer will coordinate cleaning with Kerry Luckenbill as some cleaning will be done in house and some will be done under contract. For this reason, please refrain from coming into the church building during the week as not all areas may be clean.

Clean Bathrooms and Sanctuary Surfaces (Luckenbill later during the week)

Microphones and sound board should be cleaned by the sound person at the completion of the service.

Kitchen area cleaned and sanitized. Run dishwasher with communion trays.

Piano and Organ will be cleaned by users at the completion of the service.

I know these procedures may seem excessive to some as there are varying opinions about the real dangers of the COVID transmission. Facts, however, support the simple fact that our congregation has within its population some of the most vulnerable. Out of respect for those members we need to adapt to new procedures and pray for a return to normalcy so we can get back to sharing the love of Jesus Christ with one another without the fear of hurting someone we love.

Safety Team

ATTENTION PRIESTHOOD

A very important Priesthood meeting is scheduled for October 4th at 6:30pm via ZOOM. Please join if you can.

<https://zoom.us/j/99900587892>

Meeting ID: 999 0058 7892

1-301-715-8592

Sunday, September 27, 2020
10:30 am
Highlands Community of Christ
Thirst for the Lord

Gathering together

Thank you for giving me the morning—Glen Chamberlin

Welcome & Announcements

Elder Gary Libeer

Hymn

“Gather Your Children”

CCS 77

Invocation

Elder Rob deZwart

Moments of Thirst and Peace

Teacher Lynda & Madison Abbott

Message

Elder Aaron Laughlin

Disciples' Generous Response:

Teacher Sharon Bongiovanni

Hymn

“Give Thanks ”

CCS 134

Blessing upon the offering and gift to us

Teacher Sharon Bongiovanni

Reading “Give Us Daily Awareness

Elder Gary Libeer

Closing Hymn

“Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling”

CCS 592

Benediction

Sue Williams

Recessional

Social Time

DISCIPLES

GENEROUS

RESPONSE

Attendance 9/23/20: 49

You can still tithe!

As you share your mission tithes or if you give regularly through eTithing, use this time to express gratitude for God's many gifts in your life and to reflect on how we respond faithfully to those blessings. When we understand God's love and grace are given freely to us, we respond out of gratitude and are liberated to share freely in return.

Financial Status as of September 20, 2020

Sunday's Local contributions:	\$ 2,129.00
Goal for September	\$ 16,475.00
Received in September (3 weeks)	\$ 10,266.00
YTD status thru August (below goal)	\$ (16,504.11)

* The monthly goal is calculated as follows:
Annual budget of \$197,700.00 /12 = \$16,475.00
Campership Fund Raising Status

Status as of September 20, 2020

Amount since last Sunday:	\$	n/a
YTD Amount:	\$	648.41
(Goal \$ 4,500.00)		

E-tithe:

1. <https://app.securegive.com/cofchrist>

****Select our congregation: The Highlands (Hint: you have to scroll down to the T's.)

Or mail a check to:

Highlands Community of Christ
7615 N Platte Purchase Dr
Kansas City, Missouri 64118

Or to:

Gary Libeer
6705 N Broadway St
Gladstone, MO 64118

One Link for All!!!!

We had no idea when this started how many different activities we could do through zoom. It has caused confusion with all the different links. So, we are going to one link for all. You never have to wonder if you have the right link or the right phone numbe or the right meeting number!

<https://zoom.us/j/99900587892>

Meeting ID: 999 0058 7892

1-301-715-8592

Join us for the following zoom activities

Sunday 10:30am

Worship Service

Sept 27	Thirst for the Lord	Aaron Laughlin
Oct 4	Make Responsible Choices	Russ Gunn
Oct 11	Confess our Impatience	Kathy Ruoff
Oct 18	We Belong to God	Carol Caplinger
Oct 25	Defined by Love	Carol Gist

Wednesday 6:30 PM

Prayer Service

Sept 30	Make Responsible Choices	Mary Jane Stafford
Oct 7	Confess our Impatience	Mary Huffman
Oct 14	We belong to God	Marty Jensen
Oct 21	Defined by Love	Nancy Short
Oct 28	For all the Saints	Lehi German

Saturday 7:00 PM

Highlands Trivia/Game Night

September 26



Beginning immediately, We can no longer collect clothing and items in plastic bags for central avenue at the church for a while. Items that can be wiped down are still allowed to be collected. For example canned goods. Due to the church being sanitized, we need to control the items that are being brought into the church.



YOUTH /YOUNG ADULT CALENDAR

SUBJECT TO CHANGE/CANCEL!!!!

Events scheduled by the Highlands and the Midlands Mission Center. Any questions please see Dawn Pagat Highlands Pastor of Youth/Young Adults or any Youth Leadership

October 11 Highlands Day at the KC Zoo, 1:00 – 5:00

Due to the social distance and precautions at this time, this event is going to be handled differently. Everyone is responsible for reserving their own tickets/time slots to enter the zoo. We can not do groups at this time. They do not accept walk ups so be sure to purchase ahead of time.

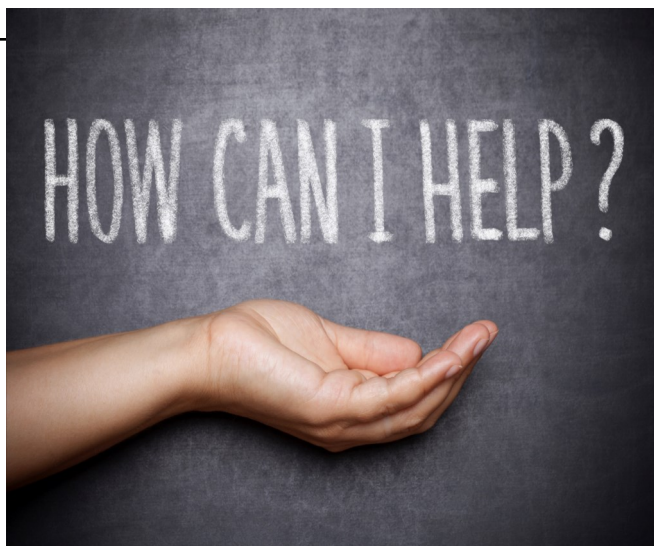
October 31 Truck or Treat, Highlands, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

November 1 Youth Activity, Kansas City in a Day, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

November 6-8 TWIST, Host Congregation TBA

December 12 Breakfast with Santa, Highlands, 9:00 – 12:00

December 19 GAP/Christmas party with caroling, 4:00 – 8:00



1. Start calling other church members! Let's stay connected during these stressful times!
2. Join us online Saturday evenings for games!
3. Join us online for Sunday Morning Services
4. Wash your hands and take care of yourself!

Submissions, questions or to contact Congregational Leadership, contact the church office:

kchcofc@kchighlands.org or phone 816-468-7878,
9am-4pm, Mon - Thurs

2020 CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Pastor of Record

Wendy Gunn

Pastor of Youth/Young Adults

Dawn Pagat

Pastor of Congregational Life

Counselor to Pastorate

Marty Jenson

Worship Team

Kathy Ruoff, Missy Shields,
Nancy Short, Dawn Pagat,
Mary Libeer

Prayer Service Coordinator

Linda Minthorn

Priesthood Leadership

Lehi German

Sharon Pierce, Assistant

Stewardship

Gary Libeer-CFO

Marty Jenson

Allen Keehler

Pastoral Care to the Congregation

Elaine Bradford

Prayer Circles

Beverly Gauper, Nancy Short

Christian Education

Chante' Campbell-Nixon

Women's Ministries

Mary Jane Stafford

Men's Ministries

Larry Paradine

Young Adult Ministries/Website

Ashli Gunn

Hospitality/Outreach

Sue Williams

Wedding Coordinators

Ashli Gunn, Wendy Gunn,
Sharon Bongiovanni

Fellowship Coordinator

Kathy Ruoff

Fine Arts Coordinator

Sharon Bongiovanni

Wednesday Evening Meals

Bob Gauper

Sunday Breakfast

Carol Gist

Classic Choir Director

Barb Siebert

Communion to Shut-ins

Gary & Mary Libeer

Building Improvement Committee

Sandy & Terry Allen, Bob
Gauper, Tom Gist, Marty Jen-
son, Gary Libeer, Russ Gunn,
Pastorate

Signs and External Outreach

Chante' & Rob Campbell-
Nixon

Highlands Technology Team

Russell Gunn- Tech Advisor
Sound/Video Bryan Parrott,
Missy Shields
Computer/Website
Larry Ragan
Social Media
Chante' Campbell-Nixon,
Manager, Briana Gist, Ashli
Gunn-Young Adult Website

Security Committee

Bryan Parrott, Nancy Short,
Mary Jane Stafford, Jeri Lynn
Dobson

Scout Troop 447 Chartered Organizational Rep

Preston Pagat

Multi-Cultural Liaisons

Bob Gauper, Jes & Juli Al-
bert, Dennis & Jeanne Payea

God sends rain so the thirsty animals
can drink, too.

