

leadership

ELDERS

Pastor Mike Ruel
Paul Fehrenbacher [Secretary]

Rob Downs [Chairman]
John Lisa [Treasurer]

DEACONS

Building and Grounds
Fellowship
Benevolence
Technology
Kingdom Kids

Len Baxter
Kerry Westpy
Jeff Lukawski
Ray Westpy
Alyssa Myhren
Kim Bennett
Pastor Josh Barlow
Steve and Ally Gunther
Pastor Jesse Morgan
Ron Vreeland

Jr & Sr High Youth

Worship

CARE GROUPS

Highland Lakes
Family Focused Dinner
Marc & Stacey Bray
2nd Sunday • 3pm
973-477-9340

Lafayette
Andy & Amy Bennett
2nd & 4th Sundays • 4pm
973-886-4679

Sussex/Augusta
Rob & Anna DeJulia
Every Other Friday • 7pm
973-919-6782

Vernon/565
Len & Doreen Baxter
1st Friday • 7pm
201-230-7372

Vernon Center/HBC
[off 12/24 and 12/31]
Pastor Mike Ruel
Mondays • 7pm



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

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

The King
is
Born
Matthew's Advent Narrative

The graphic features a stylized sunburst or starburst symbol to the left of the text. The words "The King" and "is" are in a cursive script, while "Born" is in a large, bold, serif font. Below the main text is the subtitle "Matthew's Advent Narrative" in a smaller cursive script. The background of the graphic is a photograph of a wooden manger with straw, set against a light, warm background.

welcome

our purpose

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 three ways: repent/turn from our self control and sin [Mark 1:15], believe in the gospel [John 3:16-18], persevere [Ephesians 4:1; Matthew 24:13]. We are then given new life in Christ, forgiven, justified, and adopted into God's family forever! [1 John 1:9; 2 Corinthians 5:17]

kingdom kids

We encourage you to worship as a family, however we provide nursery care [infants - 2.5 yrs] if desired. Kids will be dismissed downstairs before the sermon. Please see one of our security team at the check-in desk by the coffee table for more info.

Explorers	Newborn - 2.5 yrs
Discoverers	2.5 yrs - 3 yrs
Adventurers	Pre-K [4yrs] and Kindergarten
Navigators	Grades 1-5

calendar

Men's Bible Studies

6:30am Wednesdays @ Sussex Sit N Chat [off 12/26]
7:00pm Thursdays @ Highlands [off 12/27]

Jr. and Sr. High Youth Group

7:00pm Thursdays @ Highlands Roadside Building

Family Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24, 2018
4pm and 5:30pm

Corporate Prayer Meeting

Sunday, January 6, 2018 [First Sunday Monthly]

First Highlands Member Meeting!

Sunday, January 20th 2019
5pm • Bring a dish to share!

Youth Group - Winter Retreat

February 15-17, 2019

worship guide

December 23, 2018

Our passage today is from Matthew 2:13-23.

As you prepare your heart in prayer, please consider:

COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.”

[Hebrews 7:25 ESV]

PRAY/CONSIDER

- What does it look like to “actively trust” God?
- Have you seen how the Old Testament is interlaced with the New Testament in our Advent series? How influence does that have on your faith?
- When we see evil break out in this world, what is our reaction? Panic? Despair? Or trust in the God who still saves us from sin?
- Think about your own testimony of coming to faith in Jesus, was it in ways that you controlled or expected?
- Thank God that he has given us Jesus, our Savior, who is able to save those who fully trust in Him!

SING

Joy to the World | O Come All Ye Faithful | God With Us | Build My Life | Hallelujah! What a Savior

sermon notes

December 16, 2018

MATTHEW 2:13-23

Dreams and Travel Plans

1. A dream and revised travel plans [2:13-15]

God calls us to an active trust in Him.

2. The Slaughter of the Innocents [2:16-18]

We still need salvation from sin.

3. Another dream and revised travel plans [2:19-23]

Jesus saves in a way we would not expect.

Main Point:

Because Jesus is the Christ, he is able to save those who fully trust in Him.