

leadership

ELDERS

Pastor Mike Ruel
Paul Fehrenbacher [Secretary]

Rob Downs [Chairman]
John Lisa [Treasurer]

DEACONS AND STAFF

Building and Grounds

Fellowship

Benevolence

Technology

Finance

Kingdom Kids

Jr & Sr High Youth

Worship

Financial Admin

Len Baxter
Kerry Westpy
Jeff Lukawski
Ray Westpy
TJ Walsh [Interim]
Alyssa Myhren
Pastor Josh Barlow
Steve and Ally Gunther
Pastor Jesse Morgan
Ron Vreeland
Carinne Downs

CARE GROUPS

Vernon Center/HBC

Pastor Mike Ruel
Mondays • 7pm
Downstairs Room #1

Branchville/Newton

Ray & Kerry Westpy
1st and 3rd Fridays
862-266-8699

Lafayette

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

Vernon/565

Len & Doreen Baxter
201-230-7372

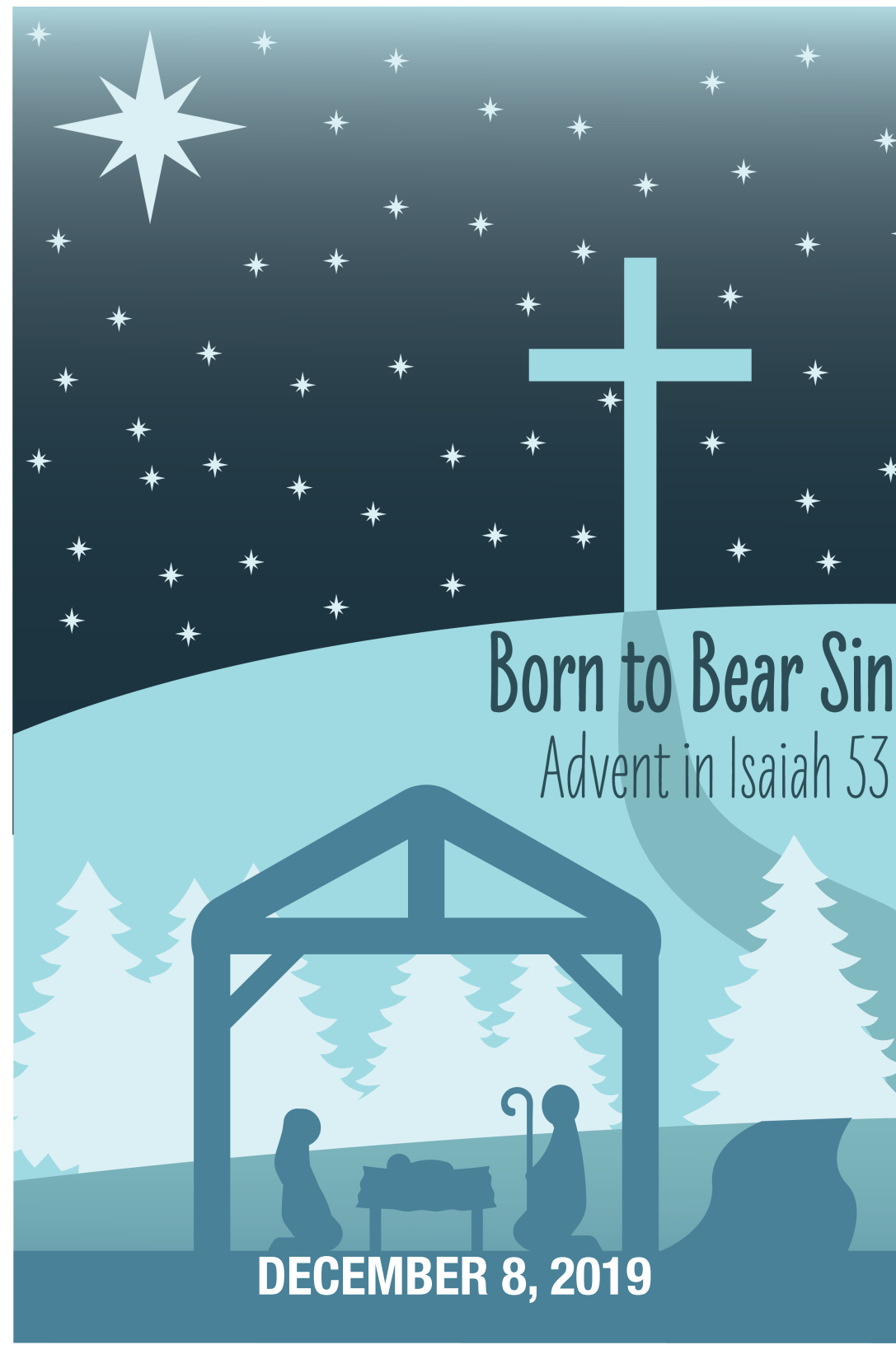
Highland Lakes

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



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

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



DECEMBER 8, 2019

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 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

We are always looking for help in Kingdom Kids. See Alyssa Myhren today to find out how you can help!

calendar

- Men's Bible Study - Wednesdays 6:30am at Sussex Sit n Chat Diner
- Corporate Prayer - TONIGHT, 6pm
- Ladies Christmas Brunch - Saturday, December 14th, 10am at HBC
- Christmas Eve Services - 4:00pm and 5:30pm
- Member Meeting - Sunday, January 27th, 2020 - 5pm

finances

General Offering - Oct '19	\$20,824.14
Designated Gifts - Oct '19	\$213.50
YTD General Offering thru Oct '19	\$213,679.35
YTD Budget	\$226,164.84

worship guide

December 8, 2019

Our passage today is from Isaiah 53:4-6. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.”

[1 Peter 2:24-25 ESV]

PRAY/CONSIDER/DISCUSS

- Consider the concept of “bearing one another’s burdens” - what does this practically look like?
- Our passage tells us that Jesus bore our griefs and our sorrows - what encouragement does that give you today? How do we resolve the tension of the reality of remaining sin and evil?
- Think of the scene at the cross - what would most people passing by think of Jesus? What about today? Do they understand why he went to the cross?
- Look at 2 Corinthians 5:21 - why did God make Jesus become sin for us? How can we practically live this out this week?
- What can we do to help lost sheep see they have gone astray?

SING

O Come All Ye Faithful | Great Are You Lord | O Come O Come
Emmanuel | He Will Hold Me Fast | He Who is Mighty

sermon notes

December 8, 2019

ISAIAH 53:4-6

The Substitutionary Messiah

1. Bearer. [53:4a; Matthew 8:17]

The Messiah comes to bear the weight of sin.

2. Substitute. [53:4b-5; Galatians 3:13; Deuteronomy 21:22-23]

The Messiah becomes a curse for the cursed.

3. Lost Sheep. [53:6; 1 Peter 2:24-25]

Big Idea: The Messiah is the sinless substitute, sacrificed for the sinful.