## Highland Avenue Baptist Church 1900 Highland Avenue Montgomery, Alabama 36107 The Friendly Fellowship

March 29, 2020

Volume 30 - No. 11 (A Temporary Format for these Temporary Times)

# A Word from Bro. Keith

Scripture allows for the existence of small churches and megachurches. Jesus tells us in Matthew 18:20 (NKJV): *"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."* That sounds like a small church to me.

On the Day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came in His fullness, Acts 2:41 (NKJV) says, "Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them." Three thousand definitely sounds like a megachurch!

Southern Baptist congregations worship regularly together with single digits in attendance all the way up to thousands attending. Numerous small local churches have endured for many decades, even some with especially low attendance for a very long time. How can this be? How can a congregation survive for years or decades with attendance in the teens or single digits? I believe the answer may be found in Matthew 16:18a (NKJV): "...on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

Local churches are highly durable organisms, created by Christ and established with Him as the foundation -- composed of imperfect sinners saved by grace but serving a perfect Savior who loves His church and gave Himself for it (Ephesians 5:25). Do we want Highland Avenue Baptist Church to grow -- reaching the lost for Christ and giving Christians a place to worship and serve the Lord? Yes. But even if our attendance is small, Christ still loves our local church — ever calling us to grow in obedience to Him and in love for others by telling them of God's love as demonstrated in Christ's sacrifice on Calvary.

#### **DEACONS**

Bill Smith, Chairman <u>NEW</u>: 207-1383 Billy Bruner 322-6554 Jerry Burger 328-2063 Lance Kelly 531-5755

## **OUR STAFF**

Keith Hinson, Interim Pastor Chris Palmer, Minister of Music Lisa Schmacker, Pianist Joan Kelly, Church Administrator

## **Our Mission Statement**

The mission of Highland Avenue Baptist Church is to be a fellowship of baptized believers living out the Great Commandment through the ministry of the Great Commission in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 22:37-38, 28:18-20; and Acts 1:8 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering It's All About the Gospel 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 Our 2020 Goal: \$2,300.00 Given-to-date: \$1,795.80 Deadline to participate is Easter Sunday, April 12th



| For Week Ending 03/22/20    |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Offerings Received \$410.00 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Annie Armstrong90.00        |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sharing Fund0.00            |  |  |  |  |  |
| Designated Funds0.00        |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tithes/Offerings \$500.00   |  |  |  |  |  |

## **STEWARDSHIP NOTE**

How can we remain faithful in giving since we are not meeting together at this time? The church office is currently open Tuesdays-Thursdays. A table is set up in the front foyer to receive your offerings by either slipping your envelope through the glass door or ringing the doorbell, entering into the foyer area, and placing it into the offering plate **OR** you may to desire to mail in your offerings during this time. Please be encouraged to continue to offer the Lord your gifts if you are: Weekly givers - give Weekly Monthly givers - give Monthly Bi-monthly givers - give Bi-monthly Mail-in givers - give through the Mail to P.O. Box 70006, Montgomery, AL 36107 God Bless You All for Remaining Faithful!



# SPRING RENEWAL Ladies Prayer Lunch

Mark Your Calendars... Noon on Saturday, April 25th at the home of Glenda (Lamar) Boyd

Bring your favorite dish! Van transportation is available. If needed, we will reschedule after the pandemic restrictions are lifted.

# April Birthdays



#### "May the Light of Christ light up your life on this special day."

|                    | on mis special day. |                 |    |   |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----|---|
| William Churchwell | 01                  | Brayton Boswell | 14 | R |
| Connie Rooker      | 03                  | Billy Bruner    | 15 | T |
| Tammy Pietz        | 04                  | Bill Smith      | 15 | 0 |
| Elizabeth Bearden  | 06                  | Linda Young     | 18 | L |
|                    |                     |                 |    |   |

- 4 Rhett Churchwell 19
  - Y Bradon 26

26

26

- Obadiah Dotson
- 18 Lance Kelly

#### Linua Toung

18 Lance Kelly

## **STAYING INFORMED**

On Monday, March 23rd the leadership team made an updated decision regarding congregational meetings at HABC during this pandemic season. "We believe it would be prudent to follow the recommendations of the Alabama Public Health Department and the CDC to suspend congregational gatherings until the established deadline (through Sunday, April 5th) and any further recommendations they make regarding this pandemic."

## Notes:

1. Chris Palmer will be recording the weekly Sunday School lesson which will be put on our website by Jerry Burger.

2. The church office will remain open Tuesdays-Thursdays.

3. *The Friendly Fellowship* will be mailed to those unable to view it online through email.

4. Please let the church office know of any needs that arise and any new prayer requests you may have.

Highland Avenue Baptist Church Office: (334)834-3506 Website: www.habcmontgomery.org Mailing address: P.O. Box 70006 Montgomery, AL 36107