

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

May 3, 2020

Volume 30 - No. 16

*(A Temporary Format for these Temporary Times)*

***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*

**A Word from Bro. Keith**  
**Baptism**

What do Baptists believe about baptism? It's in our name, but we do not believe it's the finishing step in salvation — that which some groups call *baptismal regeneration*. We also do not believe the Bible teaches anything about *infant baptism*. Babies cannot believe anything or profess Christ as Savior. We believe our loving Lord protects babies and children until they reach an age of accountability.

Rather, Baptists teach *believer's baptism*. When one properly enters the baptismal waters, one is already a Christian — already on way to heaven — having repented of sins and trusted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, depending solely upon His shedding of blood on Calvary for forgiveness of sin.

This sacrifice of Christ is called *substitutionary atonement*, meaning He took the place of anyone who trusts in Him.

Baptism is not *salvific* — meaning it does not save — but instead baptism is a *testimony to salvation* and is commanded by the Lord. To put it another way, it is not baptism that is necessary for salvation. Rather it is that which baptism represents that is necessary for salvation and indeed is salvation.

In baptism, we portray and testify that we have been immersed into Christ — buried with Him in baptism and raised to walk in the newness of life. Praise God for His teaching in Ephesians 4:3-6 (NKJV): “...endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

I'm so glad I'm a part the family of God!

**DEACONS**

Bill Smith, Chairman 281-3452  
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

***Message From***  
***God's Word***

Sunday, May 3, 2020

*"Branches on the*  
*Good Friday Tree"*

A Pastoral Reflection



**The Lord's Supper** will be observed this Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from our homes.

Please prepare your own bread and juice and have it ready to participate during your viewing of the morning worship hour online through YouTube.



**For Week Ending 04/26/20**

Offerings Received ---- \$2,770.00  
 Annie Armstrong ----- 165.00  
 Sharing Fund ----- 0.00  
 Designated Funds ----- 0.00  
 Tithes/Offerings ----- \$2,935.00

**Happy Anniversary To  
*Chris Palmer***

Celebrating his 11th as our Minister of Music on May 10th!

**STEWARDSHIP NOTE**

How can we remain faithful in giving since we are not meeting together at this time?

**The church office is open on the regular days of Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.**

It has been so encouraging to see our church family remaining faithful during this time. Our God is providing through you and your continued giving. Even during this stressful season, God is GOOD! His hand is in the "stimulus" of our lives and it is such a blessing to see you remember to give as you are receiving. **WOW!!!**

Just want to Praise Him for being THE GREAT PROVIDER!

Mail-in givers - give through the Mail to P.O. Box 70006, Montgomery, AL 36107  
*God Bless You All for Remaining Faithful!*

**NOTES FROM JOAN**

1. The Quarterly Business Meeting for April was cancelled...our next meeting will be in July.
2. An update for your prayer list is included. Please know of our need to continue to pray for these and remember to let us know of any additional needs and changes.
3. **2020 GRADUATE RECOGNITION...**Please contact the church office if you have a high school or college graduate for 2019-20. We would like to recognize and celebrate their accomplishments.
4. **MOTHER'S DAY** is Sunday, May 10th. Please remember to express thanks to the mothers and spiritual mothers in your life.



Thank you for all the calls and prayers while I was quarantined. I am very thankful for my church family.

*Lori Coleman*

**STAYING INFORMED**

The following decision remains in effect 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 (currently through May 15th) and any further recommendations they make regarding this pandemic."*

**Notes:**

1. Bro. Keith and Bro. Chris are currently preparing a weekly worship time for us to review online.
2. Chris Palmer will be recording the weekly Sunday School lesson which will be put on our website by Jerry Burger.
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.

**Annie Armstrong  
 Easter Offering**

Our 2020 Goal: \$2,300.00  
 Given-to-date: \$2,074.80

***Praise the Lord!!***

*Thanks to all who felt led to give that the Gospel can continue to spread!*

**Highland Avenue Baptist Church**

**Office:** (334)834-3506

**Website:** www.habcmontgomery.org

**Mailing address:** P.O. Box 70006

Montgomery, AL 36107