

HIGHLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
1370 BRIARCLIFF RD
MACON, GA 31211-1537

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Macon, Georgia
Permit No. 103

A Place for Families to Grow

HIGHLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

Family Matters

January 2020

Grounded in the Journey



By Jake Hall

While walking down the hallway at Highland Hills, I noticed our three-year-old dragging behind. He was walking forward but looking around, focusing on the pine straw just outside the floor to ceiling window. Damp from the morning dew, you could see an indentation in the straw. "Look, Daddy," he said. "Look! Baby Jesus slept there."

Capturing a sense of childlike imagination may be the antidote to our cynicism of seeing the world as it is. What would happen if we began to imagine the baby Jesus sleeping in the cover of a courtyard and nestled in pine straw and rosemary? How would that change our mission, momentum, and direction?

These are the spiritual questions posed in Epiphany. After the Christmas carols have faded and the candles have been extinguished, we enter the season after Christmas called "Epiphany." Epiphany celebrates the journey of faith. Epiphany tells the rest of the story of the childhood of Jesus after the shepherds left the manger. During this season, we reflect upon the stories of wise men, prophets, and the first disciples of Jesus, each of whom discerned their way forward with divine inspiration. Epiphany celebrates Jesus' walk of faith in baptism and goes on to name those first disciples who said "yes."

In this season, we celebrate new deacons setting off on a new path of service. We will see our

committees and teams embark on a new year ministry. We will look to the sky and around our town and forge new paths in the space between our church and the city in a new series of group conversations called Faithtalks. Family Night supper will call us to journey back around the tables for coffee and conversations in the middle of our weeks for prayer and encouragement.

Epiphany calls us to discern the divine presence in our world and at this time and compiles us to correct our course accordingly. Epiphany always evokes an image from Eugene Peterson's book, *The Jesus Way*. It reads like a travel guide to thoughtful Christianity. "The way of Jesus cannot be imposed or mapped—it requires an active participation in following Jesus as he leads us through sometimes strange and unfamiliar territory, in circumstances that become clear only in the hesitations and questionings, in the pauses and reflections where we engage in prayerful conversation with one another and with him."

The Epiphany journey calls attention to how you are moving in this world. How will you respond to the experience of distant stars, present messiahs, and the call from the wilderness to find a new path?

January Calendar

- Sunday Mornings** 9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Morning Worship
- Wednesdays** 8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast
5:00pm Children's Choirs
5:15pm Youth Choir
5:50pm Family Night Supper
6:20pm Children's Missions
6:30pm Prayer Service
LIFE on MainStreet
7:10pm Sanctuary Choir

- 1/1-3** Church Office Closed
- 1/5 Epiphany**
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Morning Worship
Children's Worship
- 1/7** 10:00am Women on Mission
7:00pm Global Women
- 1/8** Regular Wednesday Activities
- 1/9** 6:00pm Circle of Hope
- 1/11** 9:00am Arise Retreat
- 1/12 The Baptism of the Lord**
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Morning Worship
Lord's Supper
Deacon Ordination
12:00pm Deacons' Meeting Lunch and Orientation

- 1/14** 11:00am Jim Dandies
- 1/15** Regular Wednesday Activities
- 1/19 Second Sunday after the Epiphany**
9:45am Sunday School
11:00a Morning Worship
- 1/21** 7:00pm Taize Service
- 1/22** Regular Wednesday Activities
No Sanctuary Choir
- 1/23** 6:00pm Circle of Hope
- 1/26 Third Sunday after the Epiphany**
9:00am Sanctuary Choir
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Morning Worship
7:00pm Tavernsong
- 1/29** Regular Wednesday Activities
- 1/30** Macon Sense

Church Staff

- Jake E. Hall
Pastor
- Cass H. DuCharme
Associate Pastor/Music & Youth
- Ruth S. DuCharme
Associate Pastor for Faith Formation with Families
- Gerald N. Carper
Organist
- Laura Ann N. Tatum
Church Hostess
- Danise L. Bennett
Office Manager
- Christy N. Price
Childcare Coordinator
- Charles F. Barton
Maintenance Supervisor
- Elizabeth O'Dell
Ministry Intern
- 478-746-4846
478-743-9498 (fax)
- www.highlandhillsbaptist.org
churchoffice@highlandhillsbaptist.org

REMINDE RS

Deacon Ordination Sunday, January 12

Paul Baker, Marsha Lewis, Melissa Meeks, Jodi Palmer, Emma Stich

“Macon Sense: Faith Speaks to...”

Intentional Faith Committee Plans Series

At Highland Hills, we want to help create people who are biblically literate, theologically, and historically knowledgeable, and growing spiritually so that they engage community and culture in ways faithful to our unique identity. Engaging culture doesn't begin by arguing on social media; it starts when you look around your town and begin to wonder how the gospel might redeem this place.

What does it mean to live as a Christian in

Macon? What unique aspects of Macon's history call for a faithful response? Highland Hills is sponsoring "Macon Sense: Faith Speaks to _____" a series of three-five conversations around a topic with a theological imperative for how we live the gospel in our world. We envision these as ongoing offerings throughout the year.

The first series explores the shape of our city through the lens of redlining, the practice of systematically denying

resources like housing, financing services, insurance, and other opportunities to people in specific locations. This three part series will be hosted by Highland Hills at the event space at Historic Macon. To better understand the scope and history of redlining, the series opens with a discussion of Richard Rothstein's *The Color of Law*. The following discussions, hosted by local leaders, will focus on Macon's history. The final session will be devoted to a theological framework for and examples of taking action.

Jubilate! XXVII

January 17-19

This January the *Jubilate!* Festival Singers, which include youth choirs from six churches, will celebrate the 27th Annual *Jubilate!* retreat and concert. The Highland Hills Youth Choir has attended every *Jubilate!* retreat and summer tour and this year is no exception. *Jubilate!* XXVII will feature youth choirs from Georgia, South Carolina, and Kentucky.

Directors Stanley Roberts, Mark Green, James Bennett, Robert Gammon, Zach Derr, and Cass DuCharme have chosen ten anthems to perform this year, which include some favorites from the past as well as some new pieces.

The retreat will be held Friday, January 17 through Sunday, January 19, at First Baptist Church, Avondale Estates. On Sunday morning, the choir will sing in the morning worship service at FBC Avondale. On Sunday evening the choir will travel to Anderson, South Carolina, and present a concert at Boulevard Baptist Church, where James Bennett is Minister of Music.

Jubilate! is a wonderful tradition that our youth and their leaders love. Please keep our youth in your prayers as they sing and share God's love through *Jubilate!* XXVII.

Arise Retreat

Saturday, January 11

Arise Retreat—Waking Up Body, Mind, and Soul is a morning retreat for women to set intentions for the new year. Join us at Highland Hills Baptist Church on Saturday, January 11, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. as we engage in practices that will encourage and enhance your spiritual life. We have invited retreat leaders from across the Macon community to guide this retreat. Retreat leaders are Tina Clark, Ruth DuCharme, Teresa Edwards, LeAnn Gunter Johns, and Ann Smith.

This retreat is open to all women in our community. Participants will be able to choose between four breakout sessions that focus on prayer, writing, creating, and yoga. If you choose to participate in the yoga session, you may want to bring a yoga mat and dress appropriately.

Childcare is available by reservation. The cost of the retreat is \$10. You can register and pay for the retreat at <https://tinyurl.com/hhbc-arise>.

Deacon Ordination

January 12

In both the Old Testament and New Testament, leaders were ordained, or set apart, and trained in a special way. Paul and Barnabas were set apart as missionaries by the church at Antioch, and in Acts, Chapter 6, seven believers were set apart as deacons. They were set aside to serve and minister to the needs of the church in Jerusalem.

In November Highland Hills elected seven new deacons to serve and minister with our church family. Five of the newly elected deacons have not previously served in this capacity and will be ordained to serve on Sunday, January 12, during the morning worship service.

Gather with us for this special time of prayer and blessing as the following church members are ordained to serve as deacons: Paul Baker, Marsha Lewis, Melissa Meeks, Jodi Palmer, and Emma Stich.

Deacon and Committee Lunch and Orientation

Following the morning worship service the Deacon board will hold their first meeting of the year. Deacons along with representatives of committees and ministry teams will gather for lunch and a time of training and planning for the year ahead.

New Family Matters Format

Coming Soon!

Highland Hills is blessed with a membership and staff that bring to the table deep and varied gifts. As we head into another year together, the ways we can be the hands and feet of Christ within our church and community are endless and exciting. Many are leading and participating in efforts to share God's love in caring for God's children. We want to be sure that all of us are aware of opportunities for shared ministry and spiritual growth.

In order to improve the telling of our story together at Highland Hills, we are in the process of assessing the scope of Family Matters and how it fits into our communication efforts. Our desire is to provide the most relevant content in a manner that best allows us to convey the richness of our fellowship and shared experiences, practice good stewardship of resources, and provide everyone opportunity to gain additional insight on the many ways we minister to one another and the greater community.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

January

Anniversaries

- 1/4 Anne and Neil Heath
- 1/6 Lex Horton and Tammy Riherd
- 1/7 Buddy and Gloria Marshall

Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1/2 Dianna Glymph | 1/23 Jodi Palmer |
| 1/7 Adrien Page | 1/24 Lisa Hernandez |
| 1/8 Susan Marie McCord | 1/24 John Medlin |
| 1/9 Girard Jones | 1/25 Jean Trotter |
| 1/12 John Lane | 1/26 John Page |
| 1/16 Lynn Priester | 1/26 Cecil Staton |
| 1/16 Dot Wynens | 1/27 Warren Moncrief |
| 1/18 Will Bowden | 1/28 Ann Sims |
| 1/18 Pat Elliott | 1/29 Doug Corbin |
| 1/19 Cliff Brown | 1/29 Conner Davis |
| 1/20 Rob McCord | 1/29 Jayne Gammons |
| 1/20 Ford Patterson | 1/29 Lisa Walker |
| 1/22 Drake Miscall | 1/31 Jean Keene |

