960) is published weekly except for me w he HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH 34 601.482.0191 www.highlandbaptist.net

to The Highland Evangel, 3400 27th Street, Meridian, MS 39305.







Building Relationships with Christ, One Another, and the World

Volume 62 January 17, 2021 Number 3



JANUARY 17, SUNDAY

9:00 - 9:45 AM **Sunday School** Worship Service 10:00 –11:00 AM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20 (LIMITED SEATING)

- Family Night Supper at 5:00 PM MENU: Apricot Chicken, Butter Beans, Salad, Rolls CHILDREN'S MENU: Chicken Nuggets or Hot Dogs \$5.00 for Adults (6th Grade and up) \$3.00 for Children \$20.00 Family Maximum
- Prayer Meeting (6:00-7:00 PM)
- Youth Worship (6:00 -7:00 PM)
- Kidz Praise (6:00-6:30 PM)
- Kid's WOW (6:30 -7:00 PM)
- Adult Choir Rehearsal (7:00 PM)

FROM OUR CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR...

Why the Child Check-In System is important:

"Let the little children come to Me. Don't stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" Mark 10:14

My main goal as Children's Director is to teach the children all about Jesus and to keep them as safe as possible. I am so thankful for all of my volunteers that help me teach the kids about Jesus every week, but I knew that we were slacking in keeping the kids safe.

In March of 2020, Clint, Abby, Jesselyn and I attended a Ministry Safe Seminar for churches in Mississippi. We listened to story after story of terrible things that have actually happened in a church or church daycare. We learned of many eye-opening statistics that day. The harsh reality is that every year between 1.3 and 1.8 million children are reported missing in the United States alone, and the FBI records an average of 2,100 new missing children cases daily. Another harsh reality is that most abductions are carried out by people who know the family and children—babysitters, classmates, neighbors, family members, etc. Although the murder of abducted children is rare, 76.2% of abducted children are killed in the first three hours of being abducted, so the first 3 hours are the most critical when trying to locate a missing child. Many churches have invested in Check-In systems and I knew from that meeting alone that it was time to get the ball rolling so that our children were safe each time they came to Highland.

The Check-In System helps ensure that the child is where they need to be and allows volunteers to get in touch with parents if an emergency arises. Just because we are a church does not mean that we are exempt from predators or medical emergencies. Because of the Check-In system, volunteers within the Children's Ministry now have access to the parent or guardian's phone numbers and lists of allergies. A lot of times, we have new kids come on Sundays or Wednesdays. The Check-In system allows each child to have a name badge to wear so the volunteers correctly identify each child while they're under their care. Before the check-in system was established at Highland, if the volunteers needed to get in touch with a parent, the volunteer would call me first and I would track down the parent or guardian. Now the volunteer can call or text the parent or guardian as soon as they are needed. This system ensures that children are dropped off by a responsible party in their family AND they're picked up by someone in their family instead of us just releasing kids to siblings or a random visitor that may be pretending to know a child here.

No check-in system will keep the kids at Highland safe without properly using it. I'm always available to help parents, grandparents, guardians and teachers on Sundays and Wednesdays as we all learn this new system. This is something that we need to take seriously and get in the habit of doing for the safety of our kids at Highland.

ONLINE GIVING

If you own an Android phone, <u>CLICK HERE</u> to download the app. If you have an iPhone, <u>CLICK HERE</u> to download the app. Open the app and select Highland Baptist Church. If you have the Shelby Membership App, you may provide your

cell number and enter a code provided by the app to obtain your giving

data. If you already have an online giving account, you may sign-in and give online. If you do not have an online giving account, the app provides the option to create one.

TEXT GIVING. The number for text giving is 601-340-9409.

THE VERY NEWEST

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Chris Harley (Amy) on the birth of their son, Logan Brooks Harley.

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY ARE EXTENDED TO:

...Tim McMullen and family and Mrs. Stacey Davis and family in the death of their father and grandfather.

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH MEMORIAL

IN MEMORY OF MRS. KELLY RICHARDSON BY: Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Barrett

ANNIVERSARY

This month Mrs. Janet Strickland begins her 8th year as our Church Pianist.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT JANUARY 10, 2021

Budget 28,528.84 **Child Development Center** Designated 511.50 Total 29,040.34 Budget Req. to date (2@ 23,309.06) 46,618.12

CDC Req. to date (2@ 23,342.08)46,684.16 CDC Receipts to date .00 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING GIVEN TO DATE 43,734.50 SUNDAY SCHOOL

Budget Receipts to date 36,702.34

138 MORNING WORSHIP 186