



HIGHLAND COLONY HOME CONNECTION

'Bringing information and opportunities directly into your home'



From the
Pastor

With the coming of the holiday season, we have several great opportunities to make the most of it at Highland Colony. Three events are planned that you won't want to miss. On Sunday, December 5, our choir and orchestra will present 'The Gift: Christmas at Highland Colony.' Our choir has, in fact, already cut a CD with the music they will present on that day. You will want to invite friends (preferably unchurched) to this.

On December 21, we will again host The Voices of Mobile. If you were here earlier this year to hear this outstanding group of students from The University of Mobile, you'll be back. Again, plan to invite someone to come with you.

Then, on Christmas Eve, we have a very meaningful service planned that will help put all of this in perspective. It will begin at 5:30 PM and last about 45 minutes. This year we're planning to add a string quartet.

One thing we always do this time of year is receive an offering for missions. This year, we are doing just that with an added emphasis. We are planning our first annual Christmas Offering.

Seventy percent of the offering will go to international, North American, state missions. We plan to receive only one special missions offering yearly from now on. Thirty percent of the offering will help with some media needs in our church.

The goal for this offering is \$50,000. What an opportunity to make a difference this Christmas! Many lives will be changed and helped because of our generosity.

We wish you a blessed and meaningful Christmas.

JR



The VOICES of Mobile Tuesday, December 21 at 6:00

A highly versatile, auditioned vocal ensemble consisting of 16 vocalists from The University of Mobile, VOICES maintains a highly visible and consistent performing schedule in churches, schools, conferences, and civic events throughout the United States. A great emphasis is placed on a desire to honor the Lord in word and deed as stated in the mission statement of the group: "Honor Him with our Lives and Praise Him with our VOICES." VOICES is directed by Dr. Al Miller and produced by Dr. Roger Breland.

MidWeek Update for Children & Preschoolers

Attention 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade AOK Bible Drillers!

December 1 - Bible Drill store will be open for you to spend your points

December 8 - special guest night -- parents are welcome!

December 15 - last Wednesday meeting before Christmas Holidays

Parents: The exact date for our spring Church Drill has not been set, but the kids are very excited about it. Thank you for the support you have shown your children by helping your child and making their attendance on Wednesday night a priority. Hannah and Paul Gay, Amy Easley, and Kay Chance are making this program a success for this group.

Our K5, 1st, and 2nd grade AOK - Bible Drill class has been learning so much! Stacey Narbo and Stacey Stanford have gone the extra mile to be sure these children are engaged and learning foundational skills in the use, knowledge and application of the Bible.

AOK 3 and 4 years olds have been learning that God looks at our heart -- not at the outside of us -- through the Bible stories of Joseph, Moses, Samuel, David and others. We are having a great time learning the stories using games, crafts, and other activities.

Parents: you are your child's primary spiritual leader, but please allow us to partner with you. Get your child involved on Wednesday night! AOK: for 3 yrs through 5th grade from 6:15pm to 7:15pm.





**1200 Highland Colony Parkway
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Jay Richardson
Senior Pastor

Bill Hawks
Executive and Education Pastor

Jason Easley
Worship and Music Pastor

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Students and Missions Pastor

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 - 4:30



Wednesday Nights @ 6:15 P.M.

New Christmas series
starting December 1



It's the most wonderful time of the year, or so the song says. But do we take the time to stop and understand what the Christmas story really says?

The peaceful nativity scenes that we see this time of year mask the fact that the story of Jesus' birth as found in the Bible is a scandalous story of God breaking the rules or at least the rules the world says we have to play by.



**Sunday, December 12
@ 9:15
in the Children's Theater**

KidStuf is designed for elementary-aged kids and their parents, and every month we learn about a virtue. This month, in our special morning edition, we'll learn more about God's Big Idea! Our virtue is JOY: finding a way to be happy, even when things don't go your way.

Adults 50+

L.A.M.P.S.

**Annual Holiday Dinner and Ornament Swap
Friday, December 3**



Join us at 6:30 at Cool Water Cafe and Catering (1011 Lake Harbour Dr.). Our special \$20 per person menu includes salad, entree, dessert, beverage, bread, tax, and gratuity. Bring a Christmas ornament to exchange!

December Staff Anniversary

Sarah Kirby (Office Manager) - 10 years



Tithes and Offerings

Projected Nov. Budget Needs	\$ 142,760.00
November Receipts	\$ 156,295.14
November Difference	\$ 13,535.14
Projected Oct-Nov Budget Needs	\$ 268,320.00
Receipts Oct-Nov	\$ 280,213.22
Fiscal Year-to-Date Difference	\$ 11,893.22
"The Vision" Commitments	\$ 2,519,844.48
"The Vision" Receipts	\$ 1,918,931.00

Just a Reminder...

Any contribution you intend to claim on your 2010 tax return must be received by December 31. According to the IRS, a contribution is considered 'received' if it is dated in 2010 and one of the following actions occurs:

- (a) it is placed in the church offering by Sunday, December 26
- (b) it is delivered in person to the church office before closing time on December 31*
- (c) it is mailed and postmarked on or before Friday, December 31, 2010

Also, if you have stocks that have appreciated, there is a substantial tax value in donating them as a gift. Contact Bill Hawks for more information.

* Please note: Church offices will be closed December 27-31; consider mail or EFT.



Electronic

Funds Transfer

You can easily set up an automatic process with your banking institution.

Another option is to authorize HCBC to initiate transactions electronically by filling in the form on your postage-paid giving envelope.

COMING EVENTS

- Dec 3 L.A.M.P.S. Christmas party /ornament swap -Cool Water Cafe- 6:30
- Dec 5 The Gift: Christmas at Highland Colony during 10:30 worship
- Dec 12 KidStuf at 9:15
- Dec 12 Wedding Shower for Elizabeth Halford /Joel Richardson- 3:00
(If donating to the Money Tree, please bring cash to the office by Dec. 8)
- Dec 21 Voices of Mobile concert
- Dec 22 No Wednesday evening programming
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service at 5:30 P.M.
- Dec 26 10:30 Sunday Worship only
- Dec 27-31 Church Offices closed - No Wednesday evening programming
- Jan 2 10:30 Sunday Worship only



meal entrées

Dec 1	Fried Chicken	Kids: Chicken Nuggets
Dec 8	Chili and Baked Potato	Kids: Hot Dog
Dec 15	Spaghetti with Meat Sauce	Kids: Chicken Nuggets