



Church for the Highlands/ Highland Center Ministries

Church for the Highlands/Highland Center Ministries Vol. 1, Issue 4

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Member Spotlight: Maddie Greenleaf

What does this church mean to you?

Church for the Highlands means a great deal to me. Nothing brightens my day more than being able to experience Pastor John's sermons, praising God through singing, being surrounded by the nicest, most selfless people you will ever meet and starting the day with one of Karin's famous taquitos! This church allows me to feel pure joy by providing fun activities and amazing ministries that everyone can participate in. This church has helped me realize what God wants me to do -- show my love for Him by loving others through prayer and action.

How have you become involved as a member? I have enjoyed being a server at the Highland Blessing and love helping children pick out clothes in Maggie Lee's Closet. Participating in these two ministries is extremely rewarding. I also enjoy reading scripture on Sunday mornings.

What is a favorite pastime of yours? I absolutely love to draw! Usually when I am at home I am drawing something, even while doing homework I have doodles all alongside my papers! If I do not have paper to draw on that will not stop me, I will draw in the sand, on my hands, and when I was little I would draw on the walls! I find it interesting that one piece of art can have numerous interpretations. I strive to be one of those artists who can produce a painting like that.

What is your favorite pizza topping? Pepperoni is by far the best topping... and if it is sitting on a cheese-filled crust - it tastes like Heaven!

Our Mission: We exist to bless the Highland neighborhood with the love of Jesus through Volunteers of America and community partnerships.

A look back at April 2013



Rev. John Henson

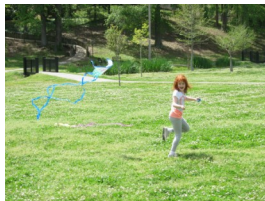
Would anyone notice if our church ceased to exist? That's a question we asked as we were starting in 2010, one that helped us frame our thinking on the kind of church we wanted to be. We have it in our founding documents, on our website, and it often is asked when our leaders get together (like recently at our Board of Elders retreat.)

I believe the best way to answer the question is by listening to the stories of people who have intersected with our church. Stories like the one I told recently in worship, about a homeless woman, who came by the church office recently, wanting to know if God would forgive someone ahead of time before committing suicide. It didn't take long for me to figure out she was asking for herself. We were able to visit with her and help her reconnect to her family support system and find hope. I often wonder what would have happened to her--and to others--if our church had not existed.

As you read this month's newsletter, I hope you will see the opportunities we've had to help people notice that we, as a local body of Christ, are here.

John

Making a difference in our church and our neighborhood:



- Church members and guest enjoying a Sunday afternoon get together at Betty Virginia park for a picnic and kite flying.



- Brian Byrd installing a new bike rack donated for the Lighthouse children

- Partying with Pelican State Credit Union during their grand opening

- Youth from church and the Highland neighborhood coming together to play softball



Follow us at:

twitter: @forthehighlands, , and Facebook.com/churchforthehighlands

Worship with us each Sunday:

9:45am- Sunday school and 11am- Worship service

News From April
 How your donations continue to help
 Learn more at www.highlandcenter.org

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Highland Blessing Dinner One Year Anniversary

Wow, how quickly a year has flown by! Just yesterday it seems that a group of dedicated volunteers from different faith communities sat down to discuss a way to offer tasty, nutritious meals on a weekly basis to those needing a good meal in the Highland area. One year later, 10 churches as well as various organizations are partnered together to serve a meal to 126 people every Thursday at the Highland Center at 6pm. Guest sit around tables and talk to one another as well as listen to speakers and musicians that come from time to time. A huge thanks to all of the volunteers, we could not have done it without your dedication. If you want to learn more about this great meal please “like” us on Facebook or contact Sabra Scoggin at sabrascoggin@aol.com.



James Burton Guitar Donation

A big thanks to the James Burton Foundation for donating 6 Yamaha guitars to the children of the VOA Lighthouse program. Bill Allen, music director for Church of the Highlands, helped instigate the donation by letting the foundation know what a positive effect music education could have on these children. Bill and Kyle Kelley, chair of the Elders for the church, as well as other volunteers will be helping to teach guitar lessons to the children. To learn more about the Lighthouse program visit www.voanorthla.org. If you are interested in getting involved with teaching music contact Bill Allen at music@churchforthehighlands.org.



Maggie Lee's Closet

What do Little League and Community Renewal have in common? They both played an important role in getting out the word about MGL's Closet during April.

Hundreds of little leaguers have been participating in a massive clothes donation during the first week of April . And it was topped off by Duck Dynasty's own Sadie Robertson, who threw out a pitch at Shreveport Little League ballfield Saturday morning.

Community Renewal hosted their annual Day of Caring on April 20th. Inspired by the life of Maggie Lee Henson, one of the core purposes of this wonderful event is to reinforce our common bond of caring for one another. What better way to do that than to spread the word about MGL's closet!

Want to learn more about how to get involved with the clothing closet? Contact us at (318)673-4440.

